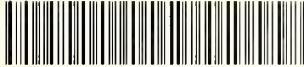




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1879.
History of the town of
Pittsford, Vt.

HISTOR Y

OF THE

Town of Pittsford, **Ot.**,

Vermont

WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

AND

FAMILY RECORDS.

By A. M. CAVERLY, M. D.

— 3 —
Clergyman—"It seems he [Arne] wishes to go away in search of life's good."
Margit—"But isn't that just what the old crone did?"
Clergyman—"The old crone?"
Margit—"Yes; she who went away to fetch the sunshine, instead of making windows in the walls to let it in!"

Bjornstjerne Bjornson to Arne.

RUTLAND:
TUTTLE & CO., PRINTERS.

1872.

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

To the Native & Adopted Citizens of Pittsford,

With the fervent desire that they may increasingly appreciate the preciousness of their heritage; may unceasingly enjoy it until the sunset of their careers, and may transmit it to the next generation, improved, ennobled and perfumed with the memory of generous efforts for the amelioration of our race.

122
11/11/2020

1872



S.H. Kellogg

PREFACE.

— 1180299 —

The writer of this History, animated by a love for historical and antiquarian researches, some years ago commenced to collect interesting incidents relating to the early settlement of Pittsford. This was done with a view to his own gratification, rather than with the intention of writing a book. But the materials, which soon accumulated on his hands, were of so much interest to himself that it was conceived they might afford pleasure to others. In conversation upon the subject with some of our citizens, a desire was expressed by them that the writer should prosecute his investigations, and prepare a connected history of the town. Though aware that the limited amount of time he could consistently spare from professional engagements might postpone the completion of such a work beyond the expectation of those interested, he continued his researches, and at the annual meeting, in March, 1870, the subject was brought before the town, and a vote carried requesting him to prepare a history of the town for publication. He then entered upon the work with renewed energy, and spared no necessary labor or expense in collecting all available materials.

At several points the writer has trenched somewhat upon the general history of the State, but this was indispensable in order to explain certain events which occurred here at an early day. It should be especially noted that this was a frontier town during the Revolutionary struggle, and that on this account not a little of our town history has been intimately connected with that of the State.

In the preparation of his work the author has consulted the Colonial Records of New York and New Hampshire, and the

Collections of the Historical Societies of Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, as well as Williams' and Hoskins' Histories of Vermont, the History of Eastern Vermont and the Early History of Vermont. He has drawn quite largely from the Proprietary and Town Records, and also from the records in the archives of the Secretary of State at Montpelier.

His acknowledgments are due to some of the older inhabitants of the town for the interest they have taken in the work, and for information furnished, and to none more than to Hon. S. H. Kellogg, Mr. Abraham Owen and Deacon Abel Penfield. The last named gentleman died March 9th, 1871, but he had furnished the writer much valuable material, and one of the last acts of his life was to prepare for him a list of all the early inhabitants who had taken an active part in the Revolutionary war. The writer is also under great obligations to Rev. Simeon Pardee, D. D., of Oswego, N. Y., who has contributed facts known to no other man, for the reason that he resided in the town earlier than any other man now living. He came here in 1787, when he was five years of age, and he has a personal knowledge of many events which took place at that early day.

The writer would also acknowledge his indebtedness to Ex.-Gov. Hall, of Bennington, and to Chamney K. Williams, Henry Hall and F. W. Hopkins, Esqs., of Rutland, for favors shown.

The late Gen. Hendee, at the time of his decease, left in manuscript a history of his ancestors, with an account of many events which took place in the early settlement of the town. His children have very kindly placed this at the service of the author, together with other writings by the same hand throwing light upon the past.

Credit should also be given to Rev. Myron A. Munson for much valuable assistance in the preparation of manuscript and the correction of proof sheets.

The writer does not flatter himself that his narrative is free from error, but he has endeavored to state facts only, and in language which might be understood. The work is submitted to his fellow citizens, not as a contribution to literature, but as a hearty effort to preserve the knowledge of interesting and important events; and if they shall take some degree of pleasure in perusing its pages, he will feel that his labor has not been in vain.

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HISTORY OF PITTSFORD.

CHAPTER I.

Introduction ; The Indians ; Early Explorations ; French and Indian War ; Military Road ; Charter of the Township.

The more familiar we become with the history of our country, the stronger is our attachment to it. The outlines of this history have been faithfully written, but the integral parts of which it has been made up have not received the attention they deserve. We read of Bunker Hill, Brooklyn, Saratoga and Yorktown, but we should remember that those conflicts were but the eruptions of fires that were burning all over the country, and kindling into military life and activity every city, town and hamlet. Wherever there were patriotic hearts there was a reeniting station or camping ground, where men were mustered or were trained for the conflict. The scenes enacted at Trenton, Princeton and Bennington were but the more prominent exhibitions of military prowess, seized upon and described by the general historian, while the less dazzling, though equally interesting and important events, that transpired in rural districts far beyond the limits of the public gaze, obtain less attention than they deserve. Now to gather up these obscure items of history and to arrange them in some permanent form for the benefit of those who shall hereafter live, is the work not of the general but of the town historian.

This tract of earth, called Pittsford, though merely an insignificant speck upon the map of our country, has been

the theatre of some stirring events, but the generations which were active in them have long since passed to that

—“undiscovered country, from whose bourn
No traveller returns;”

and as they left but few records, we can gather from this source only fragments of their history. To connect these so as to form one continuous narrative, we are obliged, sometimes, to resort to uncertain tradition. This being a frontier town, was particularly exposed, during the Revolutionary war, to the incursions of the enemy, so that the inhabitants found it necessary, at a very early period, to unite in some measures of common defense. Afterwards, by order of the State military authority, these measures were extended and rendered more efficient and became a part of the more public defenses. Consequently some few items of our town history relating to military operations—as well as to the land-title controversy—have found their way into the general history of the State, but by far the larger portion of it remains unwritten. To write a really complete history of the town at this late period, is a task which none can hope to perform, as too much of the material is already irrecoverably lost. Nevertheless, we have spent much time in efforts to collect all that is available, and the result will appear in the following pages.

Up to 1760, the territory, now the State of Vermont, was almost wholly an unbroken wilderness. A few men from Massachusetts had located at “Dummer Meadows,” within the present limits of Brattleboro; others had built a few block-houses and commenced clearings at several points further north, on the same side of the Connecticut river; and some French Canadians had built temporary residences at Chimney Point, in the present township of Addison; but till the commencement of the French war a large proportion of this region was little known to civilized men, few of whom had ever penetrated its sequestered recesses.

This territory had been claimed by the Mohicans, a tribe of Indians in alliance with the Iroquois or Six Nations, and whose principal seat was at Albany, though they had temporary residences here to which they annually repaired for the purposes of hunting and fishing. But it is asserted—by what authority we cannot say—that the north-west part of this territory was conveyed to the Caughnawagas, a branch of the Mohawks, formerly residing in New York, but now settled at Sault St. Louis, near Montreal. The territory thus conveyed was bounded as follows: "Beginning on the east side of Ticonderoga from thence to the great falls on Otter Creek, and continues the same course to the height of land that divides the streams between Lake Champlain and the river Connectient; from thence along the height of land opposite Missisque, and thence to the Bay." The valley of the Creek being central in its location, and abounding in all those materials which minister'd to the gratification of red men, was one of their favorite haunts, and throughout its course at certain seasons the curling smoke might have been seen ascending from the rudely constructed wigwam. But the Indians more frequently found in this part of the valley of the Otter Creek, and with whom the early settlers were familiar, were from a colony of the Caughnawagas which located, in earlier times, at St. Regis, within the present limits of Bombay, Franklin Country, New York, and were known as the St. Regis Indians. Every year large numbers of these Indians were seen in their canoes ascending the Creek to their favorite hunting-grounds, wherein they constructed small huts, in which they took up their abode during the season favorable for the prosecution of their usual employment.

Whatever attractions there might have been in other parts, there is no doubt that the territory now included in Pittsford, was favorite hunting-ground with the Indians; and the numerous reliques of their presence found at an early day some distance

south of the Village, indicate that wigwams may once have stood there whence the red men daily issued forth to pursue their game upon the mountains, or to find victims among the finny tribes which abounded in the Creek, and in the smaller streams that meander through the low-lands. At that early day a great variety and number of animals had their residence in the forest and in the waters. The moose, deer, bear, wolf, wild-cat and martin roamed in the former; while the otter, beaver, musk-rat and mink were found sporting in the latter. All of these animals were sought by the children of the forest, some for food, others for their fur which was used not only for clothing but as an article of trade. To agriculture they gave but little attention, and the management of this department of labor was committed wholly to the women; and being destitute of the proper instruments of husbandry it is easy to believe that their efforts were attended with but little success.

Such was the condition of this section of the country and such were the inhabitants thereof, at the time civilization began to approach its borders. Doubtless some individuals of a superior race actuated by the spirit of adventure or discovery, penetrated at various times its dark recesses; but they left no vestige of their presence and published to the world no account of their discoveries.

The first exploration by the white race of any part of the territory now included in Pittsford, so far as history informs us, was in the year 1730, an account of which is contained in the diary of a journey from Fort Dummer to Lake Champlain performed by Mr. James Cross. From this diary we copy the following:

"MONDAY, ye 27th April, 1730, at about twelve of y^e clock, we left Fort Dummer and travailed that day three miles, and lay down that night by West River which is three miles distant from Fort Dummer. Notabene. I travailed with twelve Canady Mohawks that drank to great excess at yo

fort and killed a Skatacoock Indian in their drunken condition that came to smoke with them.

TUESDAY. We travailed upon the great river* about ten miles.

WEDNESDAY. We kept the same course upon ye great river, travailed about ten miles, and eat a drowned Buck that night.

THURSDAY. We travailed upon the great River within two miles of ye Great Falls,† in said river, then we went upon land to the Black River above ye Great Falls, went up in that River and lodged about a mile and a half from the mouth of Black River, which days travnil we jndged was about ten miles.

FRIDAY. We crossed Black River at ye Falls,‡ afterwards travailed through ye woods N. N. W., then crossed Black River agin about 17 miles above our first crossing, afterwurds travailed ye same course, and pitched our tent on ye homeward side of Black River.

SATURDAY. We crossed Black River, left a great mountain on ye right hand and another on ye left.§ Keep a N. W. course till we pitch our tent after 11 miles travail by a Brook which we call a branch of Black River.

SABBATH DAY. Soon after we began our days work, an old pregnant sqnaw that travailed with us, stopt alone and wus delivered of a child, and by Monday noon overtook us with a living child upon her back. We travailed to Blaek River. At ye three islands, between which and a large pond we pass ye River enter a mountain|| that afforded us a prospect of ye place Fort Dummer. Soon after we enter a descending country and travail till we arrive at Arthmr Creek¶ in a descending land. In this days travnil, which is 21 miles, we came npon seven brooks which rnm a S. W. course at ye north end of said mountain. From Black River to Arthur Creek, we judge is 25 miles.

* Connecticut River. † Bellows Falls. ‡ At Springfield. § In Ludlow. || In the township of Plymouth where Black River rises. ¶ Otter Creek.

MONDAY. Made canoes.

TUESDAY. Hindered travailing by rain.

WEDNESDAY. We go in our canoes upon Arthur Creek till we meet two great falls in said river.* Said river is very black and deep and surrounded by good land to y^e extremity of our prospect. This days travail, 35 miles.

THURSDAY. We sail 40 miles in Arthur Creek. We meet with great Falls,† and a little below them we meet with two other great Falls,‡ and about 10 miles below ye said Falls we meet with two other pretty large Falls.§ We carry our canoes by these Falls and come to ye Lake.”

Again, in 1748, Capt. Eleazer Melven, of Concord, Massachusetts, with eighteen men under his command, passed through this territory on a tour of observation. Capt. Melven was one of the survivors of the brave company of Capt. John Lovewell who fell at Pequanket in 1725, and was lieutenant of a company at the siege of Louisburg in 1745, and served as captain in several subsequent campaigns. From March to September, 1747, he was stationed at Northfield, on the borders of New Hampshire. Captain M. died at Concord, Oct. 18, 1754, aged 52 years. We copy the following from the journal of his march|| through Vermont :

“ May 13. March'd from Fort Dummer to No. 2, and there camp'd.

14. March'd to No. 4. Made no discovery of the enemy.

15. Sunday in the evening, march'd with Capt. Stevens and Capt. Hobbs to the mouth of Black River and crossed the Great River and canap'd.

16. March'd about 14 miles, crossed a branch of Black River, which runs from Ascentney. Made no discovery.

17. March'd a N. W. point about 13 miles. Came to a

* Gookin's Falls and Sutherland Falls, in the town of Rutland. † Middlebury Falls. ‡ At Waybridge. § At Vergennes. || A part of this march was through what is now Pittsford.

large branch of Black River and camp'd. Saw no new signs of the enemy.

18. March'd a W. N. W. point, about 3 miles, cross'd Black River, kept the same point about 9 miles further, over the height of land, and camp'd. Saw no new signs of the enemy.

19. March'd a N. W. point. Crossed several large streams, being branches of Otter Creek. Saw many signs of the enemy, both old and new, as camps, trees redded, &c. March'd about 10 miles this day, and camp'd, after we had sent out proper scouts.

20. March'd about 6 miles, a N. W. point, down Otter Creek, there parted with Capt. Stevens and Capt. Hobbs who thought proper to take another course. March'd over Otter Creek, kept a N. W. point about 8 miles, and came again to the river, about one mile below some large falls,—crossed a large stream which came into Otter Creek on the west side, a little below the falls, and camp'd. Saw no signs of the enemy very new.

21. Being rainy weather, march[ed] but two miles and camp'd.

22. March'd N. W. by N. down Otter Creek, about ten miles, then took a N. W. point and marched about 10 miles further, saw several camps made last winter, also saw tracks, and some considerable beaten paths made by the enemy, but not very new.

23. March'd N. W. about three miles,—came to a large camp, fenced in with a very thick fence, where we found a keg of about 4 gallons, which appeared to be newly emptied of wine, as plainly appeared by the smell, and about 12 pounds of good French bread;—the bread we took and divided among ourselves. Kept the same point about 11 miles further and camp'd, making no further discovery.

24. March'd N. W. about 10 miles and came to Lake

Champlain about 4 o'clock. March'd about 3 miles down the lake and camp'd, making no discovery of the enemy.

25. In the morning heard 5 guns about 2 or 3 miles distant, as we judged, but could not tell which way, whether up or down the Lake. March'd down the lake northward about 3 miles,—discovered a large canoe with sails, coming from the southward, with six Indians in it, who passed by us at so great a distance that we could not hurt them. Soon after another canoe followed, with 12 Indians, whereupon we ran to a point of land about half a mile distant towards Crown Point Fort, and they coming within about 50 or 60 rods, and apprehending we might make some spoil upon them, and fearing we should have no better opportunity, we agreed to fire upon them, and accordingly fired six times each, in about 3 or 4 minutes. The first shot they all lay down close in the canoe, and did not show their heads till the 3d shot, when they made a most terrible out-cry, cut down their sails, and about six got to paddling from us as fast as possible. At the fourth shot we made, they fired 3 guns at us, one of which grazed one man's hand, and immediately they fired 3 guns at Crown Point, which we jndged to be 4-pounders, and at about a mile distant, by the noise and the rising of the smoke, which rose like a cloddy pillar;—then we carefully retreated, marching east through a very thick part of drowned land, 3 or 4 miles, the water a great part of the way about mid leg deep:—then we took a S. E. point, and travelled about 10 miles and camp'd;—heard several great guns at Crown Point, as also 2 next morning.

26. March'd a S. E. point about 5 miles, saw the tracks of about 150 or 200 of the enemy gone that morning, having got upon our tracks where we went to the lake—then we took a south point, and marched about 11 miles further and camp'd.

27. March'd S. S. E. about 10 miles,—came to Otter Creek about one mile below the first falls; march[ed] about

4 miles above the falls, and camp'd after sending out scouts as was our constant practice.

28. March'd up Otter Creek to the Crotch about 6 miles, then we took up the south branch of Otter Creek, and march'd about 10 miles and camp'd.

29. March'd up the south branch of Otter Creek to the head of it; then steered S. E.; travelled over a large mountain, leaving another large mountain on the N. W. Keeping our course down the mountain, we crossed several streams we supposed to be the head of Saratoga river. March'd this day about 16 miles.

30. March'd S. S. E. about 6 miles,—crossed upon a branch of West River,—travelled down the river about 8 miles and camp'd.

31. Our provisions being very short we began our march before sunrise, and travelled till about half past nine o'clock; being by the side of the river, several of the company desired to stop to refresh themselves, being faint and weary, whereupon we halted and began to take off our packs, and some were set down, and in about half a minute after our halting, the enemy arose from behind a log and several trees, about 20 feet or 30 at farthest distant, and fired about 12 guns at us, but do not know whether my men received any hurt, tho' so near;—whereupon I called upon the men to face the enemy and run up the bank, which I did myself, and several others attempted, but the enemy were so thick, they could not. I was no sooner jump't up the bank but the enemy were just upon me. I discharged my gun at one of them about 8 feet from the muzzle of my gun, who I see fall, and about the same time that I discharged my gun, the enemy fired about 20 guns at us, and kill'd 4 men namely, John Howard, [Hayward?] Isaac Taylor, John Dod and Daniel Man. The men which were left alive fired immediately on the enemy, several of which shots did execution, as can be witnessed by several who see the enemy

fall;—but seeing the enemy numerous and their guns being discharged, they retreated. Several ran across the river, where they had some of them opportunity to fire again at the enemy. Some ran up the river and some down, and some into a thicket on the same side of the river. For my own part, after I saw my men retreat, and being beset by the enemy with guns, hatchets and knives. Several of them attempted to strike at me with their hatchets. Some threw their hatchets, one of which, or a bullet, I cannot certainly tell which, carried away my belt, and with it my bullets, all except one I had loose in my pocket. I ran down the river, and two Indians followed me, and ran almost side by side with me, calling to me, "Come Captain," "Now Captain," but upon my presenting my gun towards them (though not charged) they fell a little back, and I ran across the river, charged my gun, moved a few steps and one of them fired at me, which was the last gun fired. I looked back and saw nine of the enemy scalping the dead men, and six or seven running across the river, and several about the bank of the river very busy, which I apprehend were carrying off their dead. I then being alone got to the side of a hill, in sight of the place of battle, and there seated myself to look for some of my men, and to see if the enemy made any shout, as is customary with them when they get the advantage, but hearing no more of them, nor seeing any of my men, I made the best of my way to Fort Dummer, where I arrived the next day before noon, where one of my men got in about an hour before me, and eleven more came in, in a few hours, though in several companies. Joseph Petty was wounded, and I have not yet heard of him. Samuel Severns [Severance] I imagine is taken. I went out next day with above forty men, to bury the dead, and spent one day in looking for Joseph Petty, who was wounded but could not find him.*

ELEAZER MELVEN."

Coll. N. H. Historical Society, Vol. V., Page 207.

* It was afterward found that Severance and Petty were killed by the Indians.

Such were the two earliest explorations of this territory of which we can find an authentic account, but it did not begin to be generally known till 1754, when began a series of operations which, as we shall see, were destined to change its whole physical aspect and to bring in a race of men bearing the stamp of civilization.

The eastern portions of North America were settled by men of different nationalities. The French colonized Canada and Louisiana; the English, New England, New York, to a great extent, and parts farther south; and the colonists in each of these regions acknowledged allegiance to, and acted in the interest of their respective sovereigns. At first these colonies were widely separated, but by continual accessions to their numbers, they soon spread over a large territory, and as their settlements began to approximate, it was easy to foresee that the two nations, equally jealous, would sometime come into collision respecting their boundaries. By the construction of charters and grants from the crown of England, her colonies extended indefinitely westward. The French in attempting to connect their northern and southern settlements, by a chain of forts and posts from the St. Lawrence to the Mississippi, necessarily interfered with the claims of the English. In execution of this purpose, the French took possession of several important posts upon the Ohio river, and declared their intention to seize every Englishman within the valley. Thus originated the struggle between the powers of France and England, in which the avarice and ambition of these two mighty nations worked themselves out in a war for conquest—"the game of kings."

At that time the colonies of New England were separated from the French settlements by the belt of wilderness which constituted into the State of Vermont; and during the ensuing struggle, this was frequently passed through by military expeditions to the lakes and Canada, and consequently became much

better known. A large proportion of the New England soldiers who served in the war, had to traverse this wilderness, and as no public highway had been opened, the passage was attended with no little difficulty, and the army stores could be transported only on pack horses. The route taken lay partly in an old path made by the Indians in their expeditions from Canada to Fort Dummer, and was by way of Lake Champlain, Otter Creek, and Black and Connecticut rivers. From the time of the earliest English settlements, this path was known as the "Indian road."

Early in the spring of 1756, the government of Massachusetts discussed the feasibility of constructing a road between a point on the right bank of Connecticut river, opposite Charlestown, and a point on the right bank of Lake Champlain, opposite Crown Point, for the purpose of facilitating military operations in that quarter. As the result of these deliberations the following vote was passed in the House of Representatives on the 10th of March, and met with the approbation of the Governor and Council:

"Whereas, it is of great importance that a thorough knowledge be had of the distance and practicability of a communication between Number Four on Connecticut river and Crown Point, and that the course down Otter Creek to Lake Champlain should be known; therefore, voted that his Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby desired as soon as may be, to appoint fourteen men upon this service, seven of them to go from said Number Four the direct course to Crown Point, to measure the distance and gain what knowledge they can of the country; and the other seven to go from said Number Four to Otter Creek aforesaid and down said creek to Lake Champlain, observing the true course of said creek, its depth of water, what falls there are in it and also the nature of the soil on each side thereof, and what growth of woods is near it. Each party of said men to keep a journal of their proceedings and observations

and lay the same, on their return, before this Court. They to observe all such directions as they may receive from his Excellency. One man in each party to be a skillful surveyor, and the persons employed shall have a reasonable allowance made them by the Court for their services."

It was also proposed to build a strong fort on the height of land between Black River and Otter Creek. A military post there was deemed important, as it would furnish an opportunity to prevent the advance of the enemy from Lake Champlain, facilitate operations against Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and afford a safe retreat for scouting parties from Connecticut river.

This project had also attracted the attention of Lord London, the commander-in-chief of the English forces, who desired that the route should be surveyed and the result reported to him. By request, Col. Williams drew up a topographical sketch and a description of the country, compiled from the journals of men who had traversed it, and presented the same to his lordship; but this not being quite satisfactory, he was ordered to make an accurate examination of the country with the assistance voted by the General Court, and to give such additional information as might appear to him necessary. But the number and hostility of the Indians in that region rendered the undertaking too hazardous. Accordingly, though surveys were made as far as the height of land, there was no attempt at this time to build either the road or the fort.

In 1759, General Amherst projected the construction of a military road from Number Four (now Charlestown) on the Connecticut river to Crown Point. This was for the purpose of transporting troops and baggage from Charlestown, it being the rendezvous for men enlisted in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Capt. Stark, with two hundred Rangers, entered upon the work. Commencing at Crown Point, they constructed a good wagon road to Otter Creek, and thence Lieut.-Col. Hawks cut a bridle path over the mountains, but, for some

reason, did not complete the work. The following spring, Col. John Goffe, with a regiment of New Hampshire soldiers, marched from Litchfield by way of Peterboro' and Keene to Number Four. Beginning at Wentworth's ferry, two miles above the fort, they constructed a new road twenty-six miles in the course of Black River, as far as the present town of Laidlow, where terminated the path which had been made the year before by Col. Hawks. In this they passed over the mountains to Otter Creek and thence proceeded to Crown Point. Their stores were brought in wagons as far as the twenty-six miles extended and thence transported on horses. A drove of cattle for the supply of the army went from Number Four by this route to Crown Point. While the soldiers were engaged in cutting this road, the trails of Indians were occasionally seen in the adjoining woods, but no hostilities ensued.

The road passed through the present township of Pittsford. It entered from the south by two branches which united a little west of Otter Creek. The first and older branch, and probably the only one travelled prior to 1759, leading north from what is now known as Center Rutland, entered this town a little west of what has since been known as Sutherland Falls. Passing near the present residences of Artemas C. Powers and Chapin Warner to where the Gorham bridge now stands, it thence turned a little westerly, and running past where Roger Stevens afterwards lived, and past the Rice, Mead and Barnes places to the Buck place, it there took a northwesterly course and passed near the Waters place—now Abel Morgan's—and pursued about the same course by where Benjamin Stevens and Asa Blackmore once resided to the site of Bresee's mills, and thence on to Crown Point.

The second or later branch, opened in 1759 or 1760, leading north from the site of the village of East Rutland, entered this town near where the present highway, leading south from Abner T. Raynolds', intersects the town line. From that point it

pursued a northwesterly course through land now owned by S. B. Loveland, F. Manley, Marshall Wood, and G. N. Eayres, and near the present residence of Amos C. Kellogg it turned westerly and crossed Mill brook. Near where Ebenezer Hopkins afterwards lived—now S. B. Loveland's—it turned north, passed a little west of the site of the present Village to the Olmstead place, where it turned more westerly and crossed Otter Creek at a ford* just at the mouth of what is now known as the Stevens brook, and continuing westerly, passed about three rods west of the present residence of Benjamin Stevens† and united with the branch formerly described about one hundred rods south, or perhaps a little southeast, of where Benjamin Stevens, sr., afterwards resided.

The following description of this road, written by one whose father had travelled it, may be worth quoting‡: "I have thought it might interest some of your readers to see some account of the old French track or road from old Crown Point Fort to No. Four, (now Charlestown, N.H.) previous to the peace between England and France in 1763. My attention was called to this subject by Mr. Hager, the State Geologist, calling on me to inform him where it was. I said to him I had a general knowledge of the route, but could not answer the direct question. He then said he must give up the finding it on the west side of the mountain; he could trace the road to Mount Holly and no further. He then told the object of the inquiry, which was that a new State Map was in progress, and he wanted to have the track of the old French road appear on it across the State from the two points named. And it excited my mind at once, for the following reason: My father, Elias Hall, then of New Cheshire, New Haven county, Connecticut, enlisted into the army of Lord Amherst at Hartford, and the

* This, the best ford on the Creek, was named Pitt's Ford in honor of William Pitt, the celebrated English statesman and friend of the colonies.

† Mr. Stevens' corn barn stands in this road.

‡ See Rutland HERALD, Jan. 16, 1861.

colonel's name was Whiting. He was at Crown Point* and acted as Sergeant and was on fatigue duty some of the time in digging the big well in the northeast angle of the fort. * * * When I was nineteen years old, I went to look over my father's ancient scenes. * * * * *

Crown Point Fort and Chimney Point† being only half a mile apart, the old French road started at the latter point to cross what is now Vermont and across the mountain. My father, late in the fall of 1759, was taken with the rheumatism, and had permission from Lord Amherst to return home, and went in the old French road, before there was a family in this section of the country except what I have named ; and he is the only individual I ever knew that walked it.

The first night on his way he stopped at Camp Cold Spring, near the eastern part of the town of Shoreham, and six miles west of Whiting depot, and ten miles southwest of Middlebury. I have forwarded to Mr. Bissell, who owns the farm where the spring is, a monument, to be placed there to mark one spot on the old French road and to designate the spot where my deceased parent rested his weary limbs in the wilderness, one hundred and eleven years since ; and have suggested two other places to mark the road, of some importance to history, from Lake Champlain to Connecticut River. I understand that Mr. Hager, the Assistant State Geologist, followed the information I communicated to him soon after his application, and it appears on the new map as desired. There is no doubt that Pittsford

* Mr. Hall was with Amherst's army when it crossed the lake to invest Ticonderoga. The army landed at what has since been called Amherst's Landing, just east of the outlet of Lake George, Lord Howe's Landing being in the rear near a mill, and where the steamboats now stop.

† In speaking of Chimney Point, Mr. Hall says : "In what was called the French Burial Ground, I saw a slate-like appearing grave-stone, in a leaning position, with the figures 1720 on it ; and I think this was the place the first old settlers of what is now the town of Adirondack used for the dead. The old French settlement extending, perhaps, five miles on the east side of the lake from Chimney Point, was entirely abandoned between 1760 and 1763 ; and several of the hardy and enterprising farmers who removed from Connecticut and Massachusetts, took possession of well improved farms ; and I am inclined to think that place was the first settled in Vermont ; and I am confirmed in this opinion by a Mrs. Sarah Markham, a daughter of Benjamin Kellogg, who was among those who came there first."

Stockade Fort* was on the track ; it then went south three or four miles, turned southwesterly from the place where old Capt. J. Fussett† lived and by where E. Drury, J. Warner and A. Ladd lived, in Pittsford ; in Rutland by where Joe Keeler lived more than twenty years since, by Seth Keeler's to the old Maj. Cheney place, and then south to Rutland Union Store, near which are the marks of the Rutland fort ; then it went south over four miles, turning easterly passed the Bowman place and to the north of Crary's Mills, then east to the road going to Shrewsbury Centre to where Mr. White lived eighty years since, from there to the twenty-mile camp, three miles from the old Dutton Tavern Stand, and thence to No. Four. The brave and celebrated Major Rogers, after incredible sufferings and hardships, with what men were not starved on his return, after the destruction of the St. Francis Indians, returned in this road to Crown Point in 1759, a hazardous expedition.

ELIAS HALL."

In the foregoing, Mr. Hall terms this the "Old *French* Road," for what reason we do not understand, as it was not built by the French, but by the British Provincials for the transportation of military stores from Number Four to the troops sent to invade Canada, while Mr. Hall's description of the road is undoubtedly, in the main, correct, yet it is not strictly so in respect to that section of it which is included within the limits of Pittsford. Fort Mott was more than half a mile, and Fort Vengeance was nearly one and a half miles north of Pitt's Ford, the point at which the road was nearest the forts. The distance from this ford to Capt. Jonathan Fussett's was less than two miles. The road already mentioned, as passing from Center Rutland through this town, on the west side of Otter Creek, left the road mentioned by Mr. Hall at East Rutland, the fort there being the junction.

* Fort Mott.

† The farm now owned by the heirs of the late David Hall.

During the French war, the New England soldiers engaged in it had a favorable opportunity of becoming acquainted with the country in the vicinity of this and other military routes. Among these soldiers many of the young men were so charmed with the valley of the Otter Creek, that they resolved to make it their future abode. These lands were claimed by New Hampshire, and had been promised to the soldiers as a reward for their services in conquering the country from the French. But no sooner was peace restored by the conquest of Canada in 1760, than a great crowd of adventurers and speculators made application for them. Benning Wentworth, then governor of New Hampshire, had already granted several townships on the west side of Connecticut river, and thinking this a favorable opportunity for filling his coffers with the fees, continued to make grants, and so rapidly were the surveys extended, that in 1761, no less than sixty townships of six miles square, were granted on the west, and eighteen on the east side of the river. Besides the fees and presents this avaricious governor reserved in each township, five hundred acres of land to himself, which was to be free from all taxation. Within two years the number of these townships on the west side of the river numbered one hundred and thirty-eight, each of which was usually divided into seventy shares, of which sixty-four were granted to that number of individuals whose names were entered upon the back of the charter. In this transaction the claims of the soldiers were entirely disregarded, and the lands passed into the hands of a class of men who sought to enhance their fortunes by selling out their rights to those who wished to become actual settlers.

Pittsford was granted October 12th, 1761, to Ephraim Doolittle and sixty-three others, and the charter, in the usual form of the charters granted by New Hampshire, was as follows:

PROVINCE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
• GEORGE THE THIRD,

By the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland,
King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

To ALL PERSONS TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:
GREETING:

KNOW YE, that we of our special grace, certain knowledge
and mere motion, for the due encouragement of settling a new
Plantation within our said Province, by and with the advice of
our trusty and well beloved Benning Wentworth, Esq., our
Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our Province of New
Hampshire in New England, and of our Council of said Prov-
ince, have upon the conditions and reservations hereinafter
made, Given and Granted and by these Presents for us and our
Heirs and successors, do Give and Grant in equal shares unto
our Loving Subjects, Inhabitants of our said Province of New
Hampshire and of our other Governments, and to their heirs
and assigns forever whose names are entered on this grant, to
be divided to and among them, into seventy equal shares, all
that tract or Parcel of land, situate Lying and being within our
said Province of New Hampshire, containing by a measurement
twenty-five Thousand acres, which tract is to contain something
more than six miles square and no more: out of which an
Allowance is to be made for High Ways and unimprovable
Lands, by Rocks, Ponds, Mountains and Rivers, One Thousand
and Forty Acres free, according to a Plan and Survey thereof,
made by Our said Governor's Order, and returned into the
Secretary's Office, and hereto annexed, bounded and bounded as
follows, viz: Beginning at the northwesterly corner of Ruthland,
thence Running North four Degrees west Six Miles, Thence
East five Degrees South Six Miles, thence South Twenty

* The charter, still to be seen at the Town Clerk's Office, was printed with large
type, on the kind of paper in common use at that time, but it has been so often
folded and unfolded, that it is now broken into twelve pieces.

Degrees East to Rutland aforesaid, thence West five Degrees North by Rutland, The North westerly Corner Thereof The Bounds first Above Mentioned, And that the same be and hereby is incorporated into a Township by the Name of Pittsford,* And the Inhabitants that do or shall hereafter inhabit the said Township are hereby declared be Enfranchized with and Intitled to all and every the Privileges and Immunities that other Towns within Our Province by Law Exercise and Enjoy. And further that the said Town as soon as there shall be Fifty Families resident and settled thereon, shall have the liberty of holding *Two Fairs*, one of which shall be held on the second

† And the other on the . . . annually, which Fairs are not to continue longer than the said And that as soon as the said Town shall consist of Fifty Families, a Market may be opened one or more days in each Week, as may be thought most advantagious to the Inhabitants. Also that the said Meeting for the Choice of Town Officers, agreeable to the Laws of our said Province, shall be held on the second Thursday of December next, which said meeting shall be notified by Capt. Ephraim Doolittle, who is hereby also appointed the Moderator of the said first Meeting which he is to Notify and Govern agreeable to the Laws and customs of Our said Province, and that the annual Meeting forever hereafter for the Choice of such Officers for the said Town shall be on the second Tuesday of *March* annually, To HAVE and HOLD the said Tract of Land as above expressed, together with all the Privileges and Appurtenances, to them and their respective Heirs and Assigns forever upon the following Conditions, viz:

I. That every Grantee his Heirs and Assigns shall plant and cultivate five Acres of Land within the Term of five Years for every fifty Acres contained in his or their Share or Pro-

* Named from its principal ford. See note, page 15.

† The charter was originally a printed blank, and the spaces indicated by the dash were not filled.

portion of Land in said Township, and continue to improve and settle the same by additional Cultivations, on Penalty of the Forfeiture of his Grant or Share in the said Township, and of its reverting to Us our Heirs and Successors, to be by us or Them Regranted to such of Our Subjects as shall effectually settle and cultivate the same.

II. That all white and other Pine Trees within the said Township, fit for Masting Our Royal Navy be carefully preserved for that Use, and none to be cut or felled without Our special Licence for so doing first had and obtained, upon the Penalty of Forfeiture of the Right of Grantee, his Heirs and Assigns, to Us our Heirs and Successors, as well as being subject to the Penalty of an Act or Acts of Parliament that now are, or hereafter shall be enacted.

III. That before any Division of Land be made to and among the Grantees, a Tract of Land as near the Centre of the said Township as the Land will admit of, shall be reserved and marked out for Town Lots, one of which shall be allotted to each Grantee of the Contents of one Acre.

IV. Yielding and paying therefor to Us, Our Heirs and Successors for the space of ten Years, to be computed from the Date hereof, the Rent of One Ear of Indian Corn only, on the twenty-fifth Day of *December* annually, if lawfully demanded, the first Payment to be made on the twenty-fifth Day of *December* 1762.

V. Every Proprietor, Settler or Inhabitant, shall yield and pay unto Us, our Heirs and Successors yearly, and every Year forever, from and after the Expiration of ten Years from the above said twenty-fifth Day of *December*, namely, on the twenty-fifth Day of December, in the Year of our Lord 1772, one Shilling Proclamation Money for every Hundred Acres he so owns, settles or possesses, and so in proportion for a greater or lesser Tract of the said Land; which Money shall be paid by the respective persons abovesaid, their Heirs or Assigns, in

our *Council Chamber* in Portsmouth, or to such Officer or Officers as shall be appointed to receive the same; and this to be in Lieu of all other Rents and Services whatsoever.

In testimony whereof we have caused the seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness BENNING WENTWORTII, Esq., Our Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our said Province, the Twelfth Day of October, in the Year of our Lord CHRIST, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-one, And in the first Year of Our Reign.

B. WENTWORTH.

By His Excellency's
Command With Advice
of Council.

THEODORE ATKINSON, Secretary.

Province of New Hampshire, October 12, 1762. Recorded
in the Book of Charters, Page 249 and 250.

THEODORE ATKINSON, Secretary.

The Names of the Grantees of Pittsford.

EPHRAIM DOOLITTLE,	LUCIUS DOOLITTLE,
WILLIAM NUTTING,	EBENEZER HARVEY,
SAMUEL BOWERS,	JOSEPH BURT,
JOSHUA HUTCHINS,	AARON BURT,
ABRAHAM NORTON,	AARON DENNIO,
JOHN HUMBARD,	DAVID FIELD,
ALEXANDER SCOTT,	JOHN ARMS,
ANDREW POWERS,	JOSIAH ARMS,
NATHANIEL MORE, Jun.,	ELISHA HALL, Jr.,
ROBERT CROWFORD,	CHARLES WHITTLESEY, Esq.,
EDWARD FLINT,	NATHANIEL CHANCY, Esq.,
DANIEL MCFARLING,	LUCIUS HALL,
GEORGE ROBINS,	SAMUEL WHITTLESEY,
PHINIAS HAYWARD,	CHANCY WHITTLESEY,
EZRA SANGER,	JEDEDAH WINSLOW,
JOHN OAKS,	TIMOTHY PATTERSON,

DAVID OAKS,	DAVID PURPAW,
JOHN JENKS,	NATHAN JEWETT,
JOHN BENHAM,	BENJAMIN HUNTLEY,
DANIEL THOMAS,	DANIEL DREGGS,
ELISHA WHITTLESEY,	AMOS JONES,
ASHBEL STILES,	PINEAS NEWTON,
ELISHA HALL,	ELISHA FULLER,
SAMUEL MANSFIELD,	SAMUEL FULLER, Jun.,
JOHN HALL the 5th,	ELKANAH FOX,
LENT MERIMAN,	ELISHA HARVEY,
DANIEL LORD,	WILLIAM STEWARD,
JOHN LOOMIS,	DANIEL WARNER, Esq.,
RICHARD WIBERT, Esq.,	PETER JOHNSON,
DANIEL BOYDEN,	SAMUEL BREWER,
THEODORE ATKINSON, Jun., Esq.,	SAMUEL JOHNSON,
JOSHUA JOHNSON,	JACOB HEMMINGWAY.

His Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq., a Tract of Land to contain five Hundred Aeres as marked B. W. in the Plan, which is to be accounted two of the within shares. One share for the Incorporation for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. One Share for the Glebe for the Church of England as by Law Established. One share for the first settled Minister of the Gospel, and one share for the Benefit of a School in said Town.

STATE OF VERMONT

Surveyor General's Office, Sunderland July the 20th 1787.
Recorded in the Book of Charters for New Hampshire Grants,
Page 202, 203 and 204.

J. I. ALLEN, Surveyor General."

Of these grantees we have but little knowledge. The most of them were residents of Massachusetts, though a few from New Hampshire joined them to make the requisite number (sixty-four) to obtain a charter of the township, but none of them ever had a permanent residence within its bounds. The

most active and influential was Col. Ephraim Doolittle, who probably did more than any other to effect the settlement of the town. He was a resident of Worcester, Mass., and on the breaking out of the French war, received a Captain's commission and entered the service of the Colonies, was with Gen. Amherst at the taking of Ticonderoga and Crown Point in 1759, and it is said that he assisted Stark in opening and completing the military road from Crown Point to Otter Creek. He was Colonel of the Massachusetts Militia in the Revolution, and afterward settled in Shoreham, Vermont, of which town he was one of the grantees. He died there in 1807.

Thus the grantees by the payment of a small sum had secured to them the title to a tract of land which, as they supposed, would be eagerly sought by a class of men who wished to make for themselves permanent homes in a new country. But unforeseen events prevented the immediate realization of their cherished hopes. It was soon found that another State asserted its claim to this same territory, and that the validity of their title depended upon contingencies too uncertain to command the confidence of prudent men. A controversy had commenced between New York and New Hampshire respecting their mutual boundary. New York asserted its right to the territory which New Hampshire claimed, and till this was settled, claimants under grants from the latter must remain uncertain whether their claims would prove to be valid. And it was not till the promulgation of the King's Order in Council of April 11, 1767, which was construed to favor the claims of New Hampshire, that men seeking new homes felt willing to stake their fortunes in this newly granted township.

CHAPTER II.

Proprietors' Records; Governor's Lot; First Settlement; Proprietors' Meetings; Pitches of First, Second and Third Division Lots; Settlers. 1770—1780.

As the records of the Proprietors for the first ten years are lost, we have no means of knowing when they organized or who were their first officers; but it is known that at a very early period they proceeded to carry out the provisions of the charter. The township was carefully surveyed, and we are told that Governor Wentworth, in the location of his five hundred acre lot, was made the dupe of a little sharp practice. Capt. Doolittle drew a plan of the township, and in the southeast part it represented a stream of water and the only one on the plan. This he carried to Portsmouth and laid before the Governor, and on being asked what stream was there represented, replied, East Creek. His Excellency supposing it to be Otter Creek, and knowing that the lands upon that stream were of the best quality, said that he would have his lot in the southeast corner of the township. It was surveyed off to him and marked B. W. on the plan. Some time after this he had the exquisite pleasure of finding that East Creek was not Otter Creek, but a small stream running through the poorest part of the township.

The first condition of the charter requiring "every grantee to plant and cultivate five acres of land, within the term of five years, for every fifty acres contained in his or their share or proportion of land in said township," was not fulfilled. How this was tolerated we are not informed; but we may suppose,

that in consideration of the conflicting claims to this territory, and the unsettled condition of public affairs, His Excellency thought it wise to exercise clemency towards his "loving subjects." The township being divided into seventy shares, the proportion of land for each grantee was nearly 360 acres. It would appear from the records that, for a time, the grantees carried on quite a traffic in these town shares or rights, and at one period Capt. Doolittle owned nearly one-fifth of the township.

Though anxious to effect the settlement of the township, it was not till 1769 that the proprietors were able to dispose of a right to an actual settler. This year Gideon Cooley bought of Ephraim Doolittle one right located in the south part of the township, upon which he had already made improvements. He was the son of Benjamin Cooley who was born in 1702, married Betsey ——, and located in Greenwich, Mass., where were born to him by this marriage three daughters and one son. His wife Betsey died about the year 1745, and the following year he married Mary ——, who was born in 1725. The children by this marriage were—1st, Benjamin, born April 30, 1747; 2d, Reuben, born April 25, 1752; 3d and 4th, Azariah and Naomi (twins), born July 26, 1755; 5th, Margaret, born November 13, 1757.

Gideon Cooley was the son of Benjamin by his first wife, and was born about the year 1737. At the commencement of the French war he enlisted as a soldier in the service of his country, and was assigned to the company commanded by Capt. Doolittle. During his three years service he passed through this region of country several times, and whenever he came in sight of the valley of the Otter Creek we are informed that he expressed his highest admiration of it. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he received his discharge, and returning on the military road from Crown Point, when he had arrived near Otter Creek he followed the old road up the west side of

it till he reached the high bluff a few rods west of the present Gorham Bridge, and standing there he remarked to a comrade, "That," pointing to the broad expanse below, "is the place for me." But he returned to Greenwich, married Elizabeth Osborn of that town, in October, 1758,* and resided there till the spring of 1766, when he came to Pittsford to make a more thorough exploration of the country which had so long flitted before his mental vision. By a more critical examination of the land in the vicinity of what is now known as Sutherland Falls, he discovered some seventy acres on the east side of the Creek, jutting in towards the Falls on the west and the highlands on the east, and covered with shallow water retained there by a dam which had been constructed by beavers. He was convinced that by cutting this dam and draining the land, he might soon have a fruitful field. This to him was a coveted spot; and he therefore applied to his friend Capt. Doolittle for a deed of it. The Captain having a large interest in the township and being anxious to effect its settlement, promised him one right of land as a gift, on condition that he would improve and occupy it, or in other words become a *bona fide* settler; and to make the promise sure he gave him a bond for a deed. Thus encouraged Mr. Cooley hastened to Greenwich to get his younger brother, Benjamin, to accompany him to Pittsford and assist him in making improvements upon his land. But Benjamin being only nineteen years of age his father refused to give him his time. It was finally agreed that Gideon should remain in Greenwich and work for his father one year, in compensation for a year of Benjamin's time. Gideon's share of the contract having been performed, early in the summer of 1767, the two brothers, taking a package of provisions, axes, shovel and hoe, set out on horseback† to make for themselves a future home in the wilderness. Arriving in Pittsford, after making a

* We are unable to fix the precise date of this marriage, but the records of Greenwich contain a notice of their intention of marriage, dated October 9, 1758; so it is quite probable they were married the latter part of that month.

† They had but one horse.

rude shelter they commenced a clearing, and in a short time began to build a log house. In this they paid *but* little attention to the rules of architecture, but gave to it such shape and proportions, as appeared to them best adapted to their more urgent necessities. This house stood about fifteen rods northeast of the present residence of Samuel B. Loveland, and on the east side of the present highway. The only vestige of it now remaining is a small excavation in the ground, which once constituted the cellar. Their living consisted mostly of game with which the woods abounded, though the streams contributed no insignificant part from their living tenants. With the exception of one or two trips to Bennington to procure a few of the necessaries of life, they spent the summer here. They enlarged their clearing, completed the house and made such general arrangements as would enable them to resume their improvements another year to better advantage. In the fall they went back to Greenwich where they spent the winter. Early in May the next year they returned to Pittsford, bringing with them the seeds for a future harvest.

Up to this time Benjamin had supposed that he was to share equally with his brother, in the land they had taken up, and in the improvements. But now, to his great disappointment, he learned that Gideon had both the land and the improvements secured to himself. This produced some alienation of feeling, and Benjamin left his brother, went to the township of Addison and took up a lot of land on the border of Lake Champlain. Gideon, however, remained in Pittsford, and with the assistance of a hired man, continued the improvements upon his land, and during that season raised some corn, potatoes and other vegetables, and got his place ready for the reception of his household the following year. He returned to Greenwich in the fall, and during the winter made the necessary arrangements for the removal of his family. In the meantime Benjamin, who, as we have stated, went to Addison, had labored there

through the summer of 1768, but in the fall he suffered so severely from intermittent fever that he abandoned his land upon the lake and returned to Greenwich. The following winter Gideon, probably actuated by sympathy for his brother, and by the desire of reconciliation, applied to Capt. Doolittle in his behalf, and obtained from him the pledge of a deed of one hundred acres, on condition that he (Benjamin) should improve and occupy it. This was satisfactory to Benjamin, the past differences of the brothers were forgotten, and they made the needful arrangements for removing to the wilderness of Vermont, as early in the spring as the condition of the roads would permit. Procuring two horses for the occasion, Gideon, his wife and five children, accompanied by Benjamin, set out about the first of May on the journey. Their scanty furniture and domestic utensils were packed in sacks which were carried upon the backs of the horses. Thus encumbered, their progress was necessarily slow, but after a toilsome journey attended with many vexations delays, they reached the humble log cabin far removed from the haunts of civilization.

Here then we date the beginning of the settlement of Pittsford by the European race. Of the exact day we are not informed, but that it was early in May there can be little doubt.

They at once "set up house-keeping," and during that year the two brothers worked together, and by hard labor succeeded in raising a comfortable supply of provisions. Besides cultivating the land which had been cleared on Gideon's lot they made a clearing and some other improvements on Benjamin's lot, which he "pitched" * on the east side of Otter Creek, and a little more than a mile north of Gideon's pitch.

The two Cooleys having performed their part of the contract, in the fall Capt. Doolittle, in fulfilment of his part, presented them deeds of their lands. Gideon's deed covered the right or share of Robert Crawford, of whom Doolittle had

* Located.

purchased it, and Benjamin's deed entitled him to one hundred acres, which constituted a part of the right of Daniel Boyden, of whom Doolittle had bought, and this division was "to include all the Intervale Land belonging to said Boyden's Right."

These lands are described as being in the town of Pittsford, County of Albany and State of New York, and the deeds bear date "the 30th day of October, in the Tenth year of his majesty's Reign, A. D. 1769."^{*}

The pitch which had been made by Gideon, and of which he now had a warranty deed, included the farm now owned by Samuel B. Loveland. The beaver dam to which allusion has been made, was about one hundred rods west of Mr. L.'s present residence, but it has been so much disturbed by agricultural operations that scarcely a vestige of it remains.

Thus we have one solitary family quietly settled in the wilderness of Pittsford; but during the winter of 1769-70, we hear little from them. Early in the spring, however, the elder Cooley emerges from his seclusion and reports himself to the world. It appears that the family had passed the winter comfortably, living in part upon vegetables raised the previous season, and in part upon venison, an abundance of which was readily obtained.[†] The most of the cooking was done in a small iron kettle brought with them from Greenwich. This utensil is still preserved in the Cooley family as a relic of that olden time.

* The consideration of these deeds was the nominal sum of five shillings which probably paid for making the writings. The deeds were executed at Worcester, Mass., Joseph Childs and Thomas Laton being the witnesses, and John Chandler the Justice before whom they were acknowledged. In order to satisfy himself that the Cooleys had fulfilled the condition of the bond, Capt. Doolittle, with the deeds in his pocket, came to Pittsford on horseback. He found them at work, cutting timber on the intervale about twenty rods east of the creek, and on land now owned by G. N. Eayres. The Captain, riding near, dismounted and walked up to them; and while engaged in conversation he thrust his willow riding stick through a hollow stump into the ground. It took root, grew and became quite a stately tree, and was standing till within some thirty years.

† The tradition in the family is that Gideon and his brother killed seventeen bears that winter.

Some leisure hours which could be spared from family cares, were improved in the preliminary arrangements for making maple sugar. They manufactured sap-spoons, and from split logs excavated small troughs—the antecedents of buckets. They were obliged to obtain their kettles from Bennington. But on account of the depth of snow it was impossible to go there with a horse; consequently Gideon resolved to make the journey on snow-shoes. Without a load this was easily accomplished, but when he had purchased his two kettles and attempted to return with them, their combined weight was more than he could carry. But being determined to accomplish the object of his journey, he carried one kettle a short distance, and setting this down, returned and got the other; and thus he persevered till he had carried both home. How much sugar was made that spring is the effect of this labor we have no means of knowing, but it is reasonable to presume that their grocery bill for the year 1770, did not contain the saccharine item.

Benjamin Cooley's hundred acres included what has since been known as the Cooley farm; a very small part of which is now owned by Peter Fredett. During the year 1770, he devoted his time to improvements upon this tract, though he continued to board in his brother's family till 1771, when he built a log house which stood about two rods west of the house now standing on the farm. In this he resided alone till the 18th day of February, 1773, when he married Ruth Beach, who was born in Morristown, N. J., Jan. 11, 1756, but at the time of her marriage was residing in Rutland, Vt. After occupying the log house a few years Mr. Cooley built a frame house which, in the year 1802, was burned. The present house was built by Mr. Cooley on the same site.

In the year 1770, seven individuals with their families, influenced by the glowing accounts they had heard of the new country, cast their lot among the pioneers of the wilderness of Pittsford. These were Roger Stevens, Ebenezer Hopkins, James

Hopkins, Samuel Crippen, Felix Powell, Isaac Rood and Isaac Buck.

Roger Stevens was the elder son of —— Stevens,* who was born in Wales about the year 1700, emigrated to this country in early life, married and located on what was known as Quaker Hill, N. Y., about the year 1722. He had two sons,† Roger and Benjamin, the former born in 1730, the latter in 1734. Roger was placed as an apprentice to a hatter, a trade he learned and afterwards prosecuted with considerable success. About the year 1745, he married Mary, sister of Capt. Ephraim Doolittle, who procured the charter of the township of Pittsford, and continued his residence on Quaker Hill, where were born to him the following children, viz.: Roger, Jr., Ephraim, Abel, Eliza, Moses and Abigail.

In the spring of 1770, through the influence of Capt. Doolittle, he came to Pittsford, purchased a large tract of land, built a house into which he removed his family, and with the assistance of his sons soon made quite an opening in the primitive forest. This house stood on the high ground, about thirty rods west of the present Gorham bridge, and on the south side of the old military or Crown Point road. The cellar is still to be seen, from the bottom of which are now growing two buttonwood trees. Roger, Jr., married Martha —— in 1773, and located and made the first improvements on the farm recently owned by Edwin Wheaton. The house built by Mr. Stevens stood about seventy rods east of the present house.

Ebenezer Hopkins was born in Waterbury, Conn., in 1699, married in 1728, and settled in Hartford. He became one of the original proprietors of Harwinton in the same State, and removed there in 1733. He had three sons, James, Nehemiah and Elias, the two former born in Hartford, the latter, and a daughter, Tabitha, born in Harwinton.

* We have not been able to learn his Christian name.

† There might have been others, but we have no knowledge of them.

James married and had the following children, viz.: Caleb, James, Rhoda and Susannah.

Nehemiah married Tryphena Smith, and located in Stockbridge, Mass. His children were Ebenezer, Nehemiah, Ashbel, Martin, Matthew, Jemima, Tryphena, Rachel and Sylvia.

Elias married Polly ——, and his sons were Elias, John, Daniel, Royal and Jesse. He also had several daughters.

James Hopkins came to Pittsford in the summer of 1769, and was so well pleased with the township that he purchased of Felix Powell two rights of land, a part of which he pitched on the east side of Otter Creek, and a part on the west side. The deed which was in consideration of "Fifteen Pounds Ten Shillings Three Pence New York Currency" was dated "this 5th day of September A. D. 1769, and in the 9th of his Majesty's Reign." One of the two rights thus conveyed was originally granted to Jacob Hemenway, and the other to Samuel Brewer. Mr. Hopkins' first pitch of one hundred acres on the Hemenway right, was nearly identical with the farm just south of the Village, now owned by S. B. Loveland. During the fall of that year he made a clearing upon this tract and built a log house which stood about seventy rods southwest of the site of the present house, and near Mr. F. Burdett's north line. The following winter he spent with his family, quite likely, in Harrington. Early in the spring, with his wife, children, and his aged parents, he set out for the wild lands of the New Hampshire Grants. It was a wearisome journey but successfully accomplished, and being accustomed to a forest life they well understood how to adapt themselves to the rude circumstances in which they were placed.

Having made for himself a comfortable home on the east side of the Creek, Mr. Hopkins began some improvements upon a lot he had pitched on the west side. He made a clearing and built a house about midway between the present residences

of Nelson Loveland and the Hendee brothers. This was a small log house, and stood about twelve rods west of the present travelled road, and on land now owned by Mr. Loveland. August 4th, 1774, he deeded his lot with its improvements, on the east side of the Creek, to the old gentleman, who, with the assistance of his grandsons, Ebenezer and Martin Hopkins, continued to occupy and improve the place, while he devoted his energies to improvements upon his lot on the west side of the Creek.

The Crippen family is of English descent; the first of the name, in this country, settled in Connecticut at an early day. Samuel Crippen was born, as is supposed, in Simsbury, or near there, about the year 1743, and spent his early life in that vicinity. In 1770 he came to Pittsford and purchased of James Mead one right of land—the Alexander Scott right—including the farms[†] now owned by Ransom Burditt, for which he paid £22, the deed bearing date July 27, 1770. He cleared land and built a house on the rise of ground about fifteen rods southwest of the house now occupied by Austin Chingreau, and on the west side of the present highway. Early in the fall he married, and occupied this newly built house. His wife, Esther, was a Scotch woman who had previously had two husbands. The name of her first husband was Wheeler, but the name of the second is not now remembered. Mr. Crippen was a man of considerable energy and of great moral worth. At the organization of the first Congregational church in Rutland, Oct. 20, 1773, his name, with that of Ebenezer Hopkins of Pittsford, is found on the list of members.

The Powells of this country are of Welsh origin, and were among the early immigrants to Massachusetts. The name occurs upon the earliest records of Gloucester. In 1748, John Powell, of Boston, married Martha Winslow, and there is record

* They had come from Stockbridge to reside with him.

† His first pitch of 100 acres included the farm now occupied by Austin Chingreau.

of the birth of Sarah, their first child, on the 25th of December, that year. Felix is supposed to have come of this family, but we are unable to fix the date of his birth. He married and settled in Dorset, Vermont, in 1768, and was the first settler in that township, in consideration of which his fellow-townsmen, some years after, made him a grant of fifty acres of land. He came to Pittsford in 1770, and built a small house on land now owned by Isaac C. Wheaton. This house stood about seventy rods northeast of the site of Mr. Wheaton's house. He had one daughter, the first white child born in Pittsford, but she lived only a few weeks.

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Isaac Rood is supposed to have spent the most of his early life in Windsor, Conn. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Ellsworth, Sen., by whom he had children, Ira and Adah. In 1770, he came to Pittsford and built a small house which stood on the north side of the brook opposite the present residence of Augustus and John Richardson.* He resided here till his death, which occurred in 1775. "He was called Dencon Rood, and his widow was a weakly woman and died a few years afterwards."†

Isaac Buck is supposed to have been born in New Milford, Conn., about the year 1735, and at the age of twenty-two he married Elizabeth Waters and located in that town. In the spring of 1770, he came to Pittsford and purchased of James Hopkins a small tract of land which is now mostly owned by Thomas D. Hall. He built a house on a point of land, about sixty rods northeast of the present residence of Mr. Hall, and about eight rods south of the east-and-west road. In the fall of that year, he removed his family, consisting of a wife and three children, from New Milford to Pittsford, and this was the eighth family then located in the township.

During the year 1771, only one family—Moses Olmstead's—settled in the township. The first of the Olmstead family in

* The land on which the house stood is now owned by Augustus Thomas.

† Hendee's MS.

this country was undoubtedly James, who came to Boston in the ship Lyon, Sept. 16, 1632, and settled in Cambridge, but moved to Hartford in 1636. He was accompanied by two nephews, Richard and John, and from these have probably descended the most of the families of this name, in New England. We are informed, however, that Moses descended from one of two brothers who came from England and settled in Rhode Island, but we are unable to trace his genealogy. He was born about the year 1718, married Abigail Ellwell in 1754, and had the following children, viz.: Jabez, Gideon, Moses, Simeon, Benjamin, Jonas and Lucy. June 30, 1771, he purchased of Asa Johnson one right of land in Pittsford, a part of which was so located as to include the farm now owned by Charles Hendee, and he built a house which stood about fifteen rods east of Mr. Hendee's present residence. To this house he removed his family, which was the ninth located within the limits of the township.

This year begin the earliest existing records of the Proprietors' meetings. The record of the first meeting is as follows:

“March 19, 1771.

Warned by Gideon Warren Proprietors' Clerk. A Proprietors' Meeting Now Held at the House of Ebenezer Hopkins,* Firstly Voted and Chose Ebenezer Hopkins Proprietors' Moderator to be Moderator for Sd Meeting.

Then Voted and Chose Benjamin Cooley Proprietors Clerk.

Then Voted to lay out the first Division of Lots and Number the Same.

Then Voted and Chose Isick Rood First Committee Man.

Then Voted and Chose James Hopkins 2 Committee Man.

Then Voted and Chose Moses Olmstead Committee Man.

Then Voted to add Ten acres to every Lot in the first Division for Highways. Then Voted that every Man should

* This house was built by James Hopkins and his father, but as it was designed for the father's use it is here called the house of Ebenezer Hopkins.

have his Hundred acres where he has Done his Work.* Then voted that all the Lots be the same size. Then Voted to give the Committi three shillings a Day. Then Voted to have the same Committi lay out the Hiways."

This meeting was continued by adjournments from time to time, with such intervals as were judged necessary by the Proprietors for the transaction of the public business.

On the 9th of June, 1772, the Proprietors "Voted to disannul a vote formerly passed concerning sizeing Land by Sd Meeting in March 19th 1771. Then voted to lay out one hundred acres for a meeting house Lot."

On the 21st of July, "Voted that every man that lives in the town, and has land in the town, shall pay the Committi for Laying out the Public Rites, according to what Land they own in the town."

September 1st, "Voted that Benjamin Cooley be a Committe man in the room of Isaac Rood to lay out land and highways."

October 8th, "Voted to lay out five acres to every Right amongst the pine timber, where the Committee shall think best for the public good."

December 1st, "Voted to give the Proprietors of this Place to the fifteenth day of May next, to come and make their first Pitches. Then voted that William Ward should git it put in the Publick Prints."

The location of rights was most immethodical. Each proprietor had his land surveyed to him in such part of the township as he chose, the only condition being that he should not encroach upon claims already existing. The lots thus located were called *pitches*, and the only evidence necessary to establish a claim was a record of the survey in a book of the Proprietors. This manner of making the early pitches accounts for the great irregularity in the lots and for the many variously

* Up to this time no division of lots had been made among the Proprietors, but those who had settled here, did so on rights which they had purchased, and they had made their pitches without regard to any particular system; hence this vote that "every man should have his hundred acres where he has done his work."

shaped patches existing between these lots, some of which remained for years unclaimed.

Three families are known to have located in Pittsford during the year 1772, and these were the Tuttle, Waite and Waters families.

Thomas Tuttle was from Litchfield county, Conn., where he married Phebe ——, and had one or two children. March 10, 1772, he bought of James Mead, of Rutland, one right of land in Pittsford, and located one hundred acres of it. Upon this he made some improvements and resided till 1776, when he removed to Brandon and was the first representative from that town to the General Assembly of the State. A careful search of the records of the Proprietors yields nothing definite in regard to his location in this town. It is stated in a writing left by the late Gen. Hendee that Thomas Tuttle resided on the west side of Otter Creek, and this is all we know of the matter.

The Waite family, consisting of Noah and his wife Esther, and their son Joseph and his wife Ruth, were from Lenox, Mass. Noah Waite purchased one right of land—the right of Ebenezer Harvey—and located the first division of it so that it included land now owned by William E. Hall and the heirs of the late Joseph Morseman. He and his son made the first clearing west of the present highway, and near the northeast corner of a young growth of pine trees which can now be seen from the road. There they built a house, the relics of which are still visible.

Samuel Waters was from "Bailmons Patton, Dutchess county, N. Y.," but we are not able to trace his genealogy. He came to Pittsford in 1763, only about two years after the charter of the township was obtained, when the whole territory was an unbroken wilderness, and he was so well pleased with it that he bought six rights of land, those of which David Purpaw, Elisha Harvey, John Loomis, Samuel Fuller,

Timothy Patterson and William Howard were the original Proprietors. The deed bears date Jan. 2, 1764, and is the earliest, with one exception, on the town records. But he did not settle here till 1772, when he came with his family and occupied the lot of which a part is now owned by Abel Morgan. The house which he had built stood near the southeast corner of what is now Mr. Morgan's orchard, and near the old military or Crown Point road. This, though a log house, was quite commodious for that period, and for several years was kept as a public house, the first of the kind in the township. A small cavity in the ground is the only thing that now marks the spot where it stood.

In 1773, three men, William Cox, Samuel Ellsworth and Stephen Mead, with their families, took up their residence in this town.

William Cox was a native of Massachusetts, but the exact place of his birth is not known. He resided some years in Waltham, from which town he enlisted as a soldier in the French war, and was a member of the company commanded by Capt. John Brown. The good qualities he displayed as a soldier secured his promotion and he was soon appointed lieutenant of the company, in which capacity he served at Lake George in 1758. After the expiration of his term of service he returned to Waltham where he married Beniah Batt, a Dutch lady, Nov. 29, 1759. In that town three children were born to them, viz.: Sarah, Betsey and Beniah. In 1772, Mr. Cox came to Pittsford and bought of Moses Hill* one right of land which he located on the east side of Otter Creek. It included the farm now owned by Junia Sargent, with some other lands in that vicinity. The deed of this purchase was dated April 1, 1772. He cleared the land and built a house on the east bank of the Creek, near the most easterly point of a short curve in the stream, and the house stood within four or

* Hill had this right of Felix Powell.

five rods of the water. The following winter he spent with his family in Waltham; but in the spring of 1773, with his wife and children, he set out on horseback for the place in the wilderness which he had selected as his future home. The limited supply of clothing and furniture belonging to the family was packed upon the horses, and in this manner they proceeded on their journey, being guided some part of the distance by marked trees.

Samuel Ellsworth was the son of Samuel, the youngest son of Josiah, who came from England and settled in West Windsor, Conn., on the farm which afterwards became the home of Oliver Ellsworth, late Chief Justice of the United States. "He (Samuel, Jr.) was of light complexion, blue eyes, middle stature, thick set, firm constitution and much given to study. When young he worked at the weaver's trade. His parents gave him little opportunity for acquiring learning, but having a great thirst for knowledge, he acquired by his own exertions considerable information, calculated almanacs for several years in Connecticut, and for one year in this State. At the age of about thirty years he married the widow Anna Matson* by whom he had three children, Samuel, Caroline and Israel."† He came to Pittsford in 1773, and purchased what is now the south part of the farm owned by Isaac C. Wheaton. He built a house about seventy rods south of the present residence of Mr. W., and just west of a small ravine, and to this he removed his family in the fall of that year. In addition to his agricultural employments he practiced land surveying, and was Proprietors' clerk and justice of the peace.

The Mead families in this country are of English descent. The record of the Pittsford branch of the family is as follows: "Timothy Mead of Horseneck, N. Y., a descendant of one of two families who emigrated from England, died and left his son

* Her maiden name was Anna Halida.

† Hendee's MS.

Timothy Mead, 2d, who, with his wife Martha, moved to Nine Partners, N. Y., (which took its name from nine men settling there,) thence to Manchester, Vt., where they died, leaving their son, Timothy 3d, in Manchester, Zebulon, James and Ezra in Rutland and Stephen in Pittsford.* James, next elder than Stephen, was born at Horseneck Aug. 25, 1730, and moved to Rutland, being the first settler in that township. Stephen resided one or two years with his brother James Mead of Rutland, who had invested quite largely in Pittsford lands. Stephen purchased of his brother James one right of land in this town, a part of which was located north of Sammel Crippen's lot, and included the farm now owned by B. J. Donglas. The deed was dated May 15, 1773. His first clearing was about forty rods southwest of the site of Mr. D.'s residence, and there he built a house into which he removed his family in the summer of that year. Mr. Mead built the house in which Mr. Donglas now resides, about the year 1800.

The year 1774, is marked by the arrival of a large number of new settlers. Some of these had been here some time previously, made their pitches and commenced improvements. The names of those who settled here this year with their families were Stephen Jenner, Jonathan Fassett, Ebenezer Lyman, Caleb Hendee, David Crippen, William Ward, Edward Owen, Jonathan Rowley, Joshua Woodward, Benjamin Stevens, Aaron Parsons, Sammel Daniels, Peter Whalin, Silas Mosher, John Hall, Gideon Sheldon, Isaac Matson and Samuel Montagne.

Stephen Jenner was born March 24, 1749, and resided in his younger days in Stevenstown, Mass. In 1772, he came to Pittsford, and purchased of James Mead one right of land, for which he paid £20, L. M., the deed being dated June 10, 1772. This right or share was so located as to include the most of the land upon which Hitchcockville now stands, and it extended

* On the Coat of Arms attached to the original name of Mead, the field is sable, with a chevron between three Pelicans.

some distance eastward. The following year he cleared the tract of land now the south part of the field owned by Mrs. Emeline Smith, and built a house thereon. This house stood about fifty rods east of the present residence of Henry Merrill. February 16, 1774, Mr. Jenner married Mary Kirkum, of Whiting, who was born August 2, 1755. Immediately after his marriage Pittsford became his legal residence.

Jonathan Fassett was the son of John Fassett who was born April 1, 1720, and removed from Hardwick, Mass., to Bennington, Vermont, in 1761. He was chosen Captain of the first military company formed there, and was one of the two representatives from that town in the first State Legislature. He was a member of the Bennington church at its organization, and was the first clerk of the church. He died at Bennington August 12, 1794, in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

His children were Sarah, John, Jonathan, David, Nathan, Amos, Mary, Benjamin, and Hannah.

Jonathan, the second son, was born in Bedford,^{*} Mass., May 7, 1745, married Mary,[†] daughter of Samuel Montague, of Sunderland, Mass., October 9, 1764, and settled in Bennington, Vt., to which place he had removed with his father in 1761.

October 27, 1773, he purchased fifty-five acres of land, in Pittsford, including a part of the farm now owned by the heirs of the late David Hull, and built a log house on the same ground upon which the present house stands. Here he removed his family, consisting of his wife and four children. The exact time of their arrival is not known, but they were residing here very early in the spring of 1774.

We have no knowledge of the birth-place of Ebenezer Lyman. The first we hear of him is in October, 1769, when his name occurs upon petition of the citizens of Bennington

* Town Records.

† Mary Montague was born Nov. 4, 1740.

to the Governor of New Hampshire, and as his name is not found upon the records at an earlier period, it is probable that he was then a new-comer in that town, or had recently attained his majority. He married Martha, daughter of Samuel Montagne, June 15, 1768, and there is little doubt that he resided in Bennington till he removed his residence to Pittsford in 1774. May 12, 1773, he bought one-half of a right of land in Pittsford, for which he paid £15, and he made a clearing and built a house* near where John Lique now resides, a little south or southeast of Furnace Brook—then called East Branch. He removed his family here the following spring.

The first of the Hendee family in this country was named Richard. He descended from a family of French Protestants who, on account of their religion, were expelled from Normandy and afterwards settled in England. Richard came to Boston in the first settlement of the country, married and settled in that vicinity. He had two sons, Richard and Caleb. The latter died without children; the former married and had a son Jonathan; his wife soon after died. He left the child with its mother's relatives, moved to Connecticut, there married a Conant and settled in or near Windham. Jonathan on coming to manhood married and had several children—David, Barzillai, Asa and Hannah. His wife died and he afterwards married Martha Millington by whom he had Jonathan, Richard, Caleb, Rachel and Martha. He died at the place now called Ellington about the year 1775. He was poor and illiterate, but was said to have been an honest man and to have possessed more than an ordinary share of physical power, as did also his sons by his first wife. Of his sons by his second wife, Jonathan died when young at Havana, Cuba; Richard we shall have occasion to refer to hereafter; Caleb, the third son, was born in Coventry, Conn., in the month of August, 1745. While

* This house and the one built by Mr. Jenner were the first two houses built in the vicinity of what is now Mill Village.

young he removed with his father's family to Simsbury, and, being in humble circumstances, he received very limited educational advantages. He was taught to read and drilled in writing just enough to enable him to keep his book accounts. He knew nothing of the rules of Arithmetic, though he could calculate interest and make such reckonings as were necessary in his business as a farmer. When twenty-one years of age he was admitted to freedom with no other patrimony than a good constitution, without property or a trade. His father preferred that his elder brother Richard should live with himself, and to him he gave the small estate he possessed, which in a few years was sold and the evils lost by the depreciation of continental money.

On the 27th day of April, 1767, in the twenty-second year of his age, Caleb married Caroline, only daughter of Samuel Ellsworth, to whom allusion has already been made. She was born sometime in the month of March, 1748, and of course had just entered her twentieth year. She was without wealth and "had nothing to commend her but the good qualities of her person which were not inferior." He settled in Simsbury, Conn., where he resided about two years, then moved to East Windsor where by the fruits of his industry, he purchased a small farm, and erected buildings and made other improvements. In the winter of 1773, he came to Pittsford and purchased* of Silas Harmon one right of land, a part of which is the farm now owned by his son Dea. Samuel Hendee. He returned to Windsor, sold his farm there for £300, (about \$1000,†) and in February or March, moved to Pittsford, where with vigor he entered upon agricultural pursuits, under all the disadvantages incident to the settlement of a new country. He built a house which stood a few rods north of the present residence of his son Samuel, and very near where Chester Thomas now lives.

* It is probable the contract here made was a verbal one, and that it was afterwards consummated by a written one, as we find the deed was dated June 7, 1774.

† A shilling was one-sixth of a dollar or 16 2/3 cents, and twenty of these were reckoned a pound.

We are informed that David Crippen was a relative of Samuel but whether a brother or cousin we cannot determine; nor have we succeeded in our efforts to ascertain his birth-place. Tradition makes him a native of Connecticut. On the 14th of February, 1774, he bought of Samuel Crippen twenty acres of land in Pittsford, comprising the north part of the farm now owned by Chapin E. Warner. He made a clearing and built a house* about six rods west of Otter Creek and forty or fifty rods south of the present Gorham bridge. To this place he removed his family consisting of his wife and two sons, David, Jr., and Darius, then grown to manhood.

The Ward family can be traced far back into English history. Seven hundred and ten distinguished persons, each bearing but one name, accompanied William, the Conqueror, from Normandy to the conquest of England in 1066. Among the number was "Ward one of the noble Captains." The first that appears with an additional name was William de la Ward residing in Chester in 1173.

The Wards became quite numerous in Yorkshire and soon spread into the adjoining counties of England. The first mention of the name in America was in 1639, when William Ward shared in the division of the lands of Sudbury, Mass., as one of the proprietors of that plantation. He was made freeman in 1643, represented Sudbury in the General Court in 1644, and was several years chairman of the selectmen, which office he held in 1660, when he removed to Marlboro. At the organization of the church in that town he was elected deacon.

In common with others he endured great hardships and sustained great losses through Indian hostilities; more especially during King Philip's war in 1675-6, when his buildings were fired, his cattle destroyed and one of his sons slain by the enemy. He died at Marlboro, August 10, 1687. He had fourteen

* This house stood on the east side of the road and on the first rise of ground south of the bridge. There is nothing now to mark the site of it.

children, the first three or four of whom were born in England.

His eldest child John, born in 1626, became one of the proprietors of Sudbury in 1651, married Hannah Jackson, of Cambridge, in that part now called Newton, where he settled and was selectman nine years, and nine years representative in "The Great and General Court." He lived in the southwesterly part of the town -- his dwelling house being constructed for, and used as a garrison prior to, and at the time of King Philip's war. In 1701, he disposed of his real estate, lying mostly in one body, by deeds of gift to his sons. The quantity of land to each was about one hundred acres, and in each deed was a clause restricting the grantee from selling without the consent of his brothers, or the major part of them. When any one of them sold, his brothers witnessed the deed, which implied his consent to the transaction. He made his will, Feb. 2, 1708, and died July 8, 1708, aged eighty-two. His wife died April 24, 1704, aged seventy-three. They had thirteen children.

Their 7th child, William, born Nov. 19, 1664, married Abigail ——, Dec. 31, 1689, and settled in Newton, where he was selectman several years. He held this office as late as 1722, and perhaps moved away soon after. Nothing more is known of the parents.

They had at Newton, John, born Feb. 23, 1690, who married Deborah ——, and resided at Newton until after 1720. He was for many years a school teacher at Grafton, and died there May 24, 1747, aged fifty-six. He had nine children.

His third child, William, born Dec. 18, 1716, married Mary Cole; when and where, not known. He died at Ashford, March 27, 1778, in the sixty-third year of his age. His widow died Aug. 19, 1779, aged sixty-five. They had six children.

William the eldest, born about the year 1755, went from Ashford to Shaftsbury, Vt., where he married and resided several years and was a magistrate.* September 14, 1774, he

* Ward family.

bought of Renben Ellis one hundred and ten acres of land on Otter Creek in the town of Pittsford. This purchase included a part of the farm now owned by Isaae C. Wheaton. He cleared the land and built a house on what is now the field northeast of Mr. Wheaton's residence. Mr. Ward remained in town only a few years, and we have not been able to ascertain where he went, or to trace his descendants.

Of Edward Owen's ancestry we know nothing. His early life was spent in Sheffield, Mass., where he married Elizabeth Torrey and continued his residence there till 1774, when he came to Pittsford, Vt., and purchased the land now constituting the easterly portion of the farm owned by the heirs of the late David Hall. He built a house* on the ridge of land about seventy rods east—or a little south of east—of the house now on the farm. Hither he moved his family, consisting of his wife and six children, viz.: Abraham, Abdon, Amasa, Rebecca, Thirza and Ersula, the eldest at this time being nearly grown to manhood.

Of Jonathan Rowley, previously to the time he located in Pittsford, little is known. It is supposed that he was a native of Massachusetts; and that he had resided sometime in Richmond, Berkshire Co., there can be little doubt. In the fall of 1773, he came to Pittsford, and bought of Roger Stevens, one right of land, for which he paid £24, the deed bearing date Sept. 6, 1773. This land was so located as to include the farm now owned by Edward Paine. He built a log house, sixteen feet by twenty, at the base of the hill, and about thirty rods west of the site of the house now occupied by Mr. Paine. The following spring he removed here with his family which consisted of a wife and nine children, the eldest at this time having nearly come to maturity.

Joshua Woodward was a descendant of Richard who was born in Ipswich, England, where he married Mary ——, and

* The cellar of this house may still be seen.

embarked for America April 10, 1634, and became one of the earliest proprietors of Watertown, Mass. By his first wife he had eight children. He married, second, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Hammond of Newton. George, the eighth child, born September 11, 1660, married Lydia Brown, and after the birth of one child, settled in Brookline. The eldest child, Abraham, born in Watertown, February 1, 1687-8, married Joanna ——, and had a son Abraham, born January 12, 1718, who married and resided some years in Brookline. By a second wife Sarah he had two sons, Caleb and Joshua. Caleb administered upon his father's estate in 1760. Joshua came to Pittsford in 1774, and bought one right of land, which included the farms now owned by C. Bowen, F. B. Barnes, Josiah Leonard and James Bucknam. He built a house which stood about four rods north of Mr. Bucknam's, and to this he removed his family.

Benjamin Stevens was brother of Roger who has already been mentioned. He married Hopestil Shaw and resided in Nine Partners, Dutchess Co., N. Y., where were born the following children, viz.: Daniel, Benjamin, James, Simeon, Jonathan and Hopestil. In 1773, he moved to Manchester, Vt., and in the following year, to Pittsford. He bought the land which now forms the farm owned by Edward and Richard Hendee, and built a house on the south slope of the hill, the cellar of which may still be seen on the north side of the east-and-west road, near its junction with the north-and-south road. At that early period the Crown Point road passed a few rods east of this house; and the location of that road might have had some influence with Mr. Stevens in making his "pitch," and in the selection of a site for his buildings.

Of the ancestors of Aaron Parsons we have no positive information. It has been supposed that he descended from Jeffrey Parsons who settled in Gloucester, Mass., at a very early day. But if of Gloucester origin his parents were not

probably living in that place at the time of his birth, as we find no Aaron there of mature age in 1774, except one who died there in 1809. Josiah Parsons and Ennise Sargent were married in Gloucester, Dec. 24, 1719, and had Josiah, Ennise, Nathaniel, Rachel, Job, Sarah, Abraham, Deborah, Lydia and Mary born there. They afterwards moved to New Hampshire. Possibly Aaron of Pittsford came of this family. Whatever his origin might have been, he located in Pittsford with his family in 1774, and resided in a house which stood on the brow of the hill about sixty rods west of the present residence of Azro Dickerman.

Samuel Daniels was from Upton, Mass. He purchased two rights of land in Pittsford of which Amasa Bowers and Joshua Hutchins were the original grantees. No copy of the deed of this purchase can be found; consequently we are unable to fix the date of it. These rights were located east of Otter Creek and between William Cox's land and Caleb Hendee's. The probability is that he purchased this land of Isaac Rood, as it was the land formerly owned by him, and it is known that he lost his health about this time and died soon after at Caleb Hendee's. Mr. Daniels with his family, consisting of a wife and four children, Betsey, Polly, George and Dan, located here and occupied the Rood house. On the 28th of June, 1776, he sold his real estate in Pittsford to Benjamin Wrisley of Coventry, Conn., and removed to Salisbury. We shall hereafter find that he was killed by the Indians.

Peter Whelan was from Connecticut but we know nothing of his ancestry. He married Ruth ——— in 1774, and located in a small house which he had built a few rods north of the residence of Caleb Hendee.

Silas Mosher is supposed to have come from Dutchess county, N. Y., but the exact place of his birth is not known to us. He made the first improvements on the farm now owned by Richard and Charles Burditt, and built a house a few rods

north of the Burditts' north barn. A road was cleared by his house which, leading north, entered the Crown Point road near the residence of Benjamin Stevens.

John Hall was a native of Connecticut. He married, and had one son, John, grown to manhood, when he located in this town in 1774. This family resided on the west side of the Creek, though the exact lot occupied cannot be determined. They removed to Sndbury about the year 1780.

Gideon Sheldon, from Dover, Dutchess County, New York, located here in the fall of this year. He purchased of Samuel Waters* a lot of land which included the farm now owned by Byron Morgan in Whipple Hollow. His first clearing was made and his house built about one hundred rods west of the present residence of Mr. Morgan. The cellar is all that now marks the spot.

Isaac Matson was the son of —— Matson who married Amy Holida and resided some time in or near Windsor, Conn. Two children were the result of this marriage, viz.: Isaac and Amy. Isaac married Martha, daughter of Jonathan Hendee, in 1767, and seven children were the result of this marriage, viz.: Isaac, Joshua, James, Martha, Nancy, Polly and Sally. This family came to Pittsford, in 1774, and resided for a short time on the west side of the Creek; afterwards Mr. Matson bought of Samuel Ellsworth what is now the north part of the farm owned by Isaac C. Wheaton, then known as the Ward place. Mr. Matson moved his family into the house formerly occupied by William Ward. He was a large man with black eyes, and somewhat loquacious; his wife was a weakly woman and died some years before her husband, of consumption.†

Samuel Montague was a descendant of Richard who came from England and settled in Wethersfield, Conn., in 1627. The following is his lineage: Samuel Montague, son of Samuel

* Mr. Sheldon had married Sarah, sister of Samuel Waters.

† Hendee's MS.

and Elizabeth (White) Montague, of Sunderland, Mass., son of John and Hannah (Smith) Montague, of Hadley, son of Richard and Abigail (Downing) Montague, of Wethersfield and Hadley, was born at Sunderland,* June 30, 1720. He married Elizabeth Montague, probably,† early in 1742, and settled in Sunderland where he followed the occupation of weaving. He was of a religious turn of mind, united with the Sunderland church and was very strict in the observance of all his religious obligations. But certain troubles which had sprung up in the church, began about this time to assume a serious aspect. Some members of the original church believed that it had departed from its original faith and order, and on that account refused to communicate with it and established a separate church. The old church excommunicated these separating members, and refused to recognize the new organization as a church of Christ. Samuel Montague was one of these separating members or "new lights." The religious troubles in that town caused him with several of his associates to remove to Bennington in 1761. He was moderator of the first town meeting held there in 1762, and a member of the first church, at the time of its organization there the same year. We are unable to learn when he purchased an interest in the township of Pittsford, but it appears from the records that he bought the right of John Loomis, one of the original proprietors and pitched fifty-five acres of the same in the north part of the township. This included what is now the north part of the farm owned by Roswell Woodcock. He built a house on the high ground, about one-fourth of a mile north of the site of Mr. Woodcock's house, and some vestiges of the same may still be seen, on the east side of the old road leading to Seth Hewitt's. His house having been completed, he removed his family from Bennington to Pittsford in the summer of 1774.

*The homestead on which he was born has ever been owned by the Montague family.

†The records do not make this certain.

But one family is known to have located in Pittsford in 1775. Amos Fassett whose ancestors have already been mentioned, was born in Hardwick, Mass., in June, 1752, moved to Bennington with his father's family in 1761 and married, in 1773, Anna Lawrence of Norwich, Conn., who was born Dec. 22, 1755. In the fall of 1774, Mr. Fussett came to Pittsford and built a house on the old Crown Point road, about thirty rods west of the site of the present Village, and on land now owned by E. B. Rand. The following spring he removed here with his family consisting of a wife and one child Samuel, born November 21, 1774. In the records he is called Dr. Fassett, but we learn from one of his sons that he was not a doctor by profession. His older brother, Nathan, received a medical education, and it is possible that Amos, learning something of the healing art from his brother, made some pretensions to a knowledge of medicine and thereby got the title of doctor; but it is quite certain that he did not make the practice of medicine a business.

With one exception we have mentioned all the families that were located in the town at the commencement of the Revolutionary war. John Marshall and wife and perhaps several children were living here, but we neither know the time when they came nor their place* of residence. Our oldest inhabitants know nothing of them and the existing town records make no allusion to them. Some years later, reference is made to "a lot of land owned by William Marshall," who might have been a son of the aforesaid John.

At a meeting held at the house of Ebenezer Hopkins, Sept. 14, 1773, the Proprietors "voted to lay out one hundred and ten acres of land in the Second Division to Every Right; Then voted that every lot should be laid out together in the Second Division; Then voted that fifty-five acres in the Second Divi-

* We should infer from Hendee's manuscript that this family was located somewhere near the residence of Benjamin Stevens.

sion should not exceed half a mile in length, as the whole hundred and ten; Then voted that the Clerk should set up notification in three towns at Public houses to notify the proprietors of Pittsford to come in by the foreteenth of October next to make their first pitches. Then voted to adjourn sd meeting to the fourteenth of October next at the house of Moses Olmstead.

PITTSFORD, October 14, 1773.

Then met on sd Tuesday and opened said meeting and voted for the Second Division Pitches to be drawn and number the same.

Voted that the meeting be adjourned until the 3 Day of January 1774.

PITTSFORD January 3, 1774.

Then met on said Monday and opened said meeting and voted to have Ebenezer Lyman P. Clerk in said town.

Then past to vote at Proprietors' Meeting that Every Person that has Land laid out they shall pay their Equal Proportion of 32 pounds New York Money and the Interest.

Voted that Samuel Ellsworth, Stephen Mead and Benjamin Cooley be sессors, Benjamin Cooley, Collector."

At an adjourned meeting December 19, 1774, the Proprietors "voted Ebenezer Lyman Collector to collect the cost of laying out the township of Pittsford. Voted 6 shillings on a Right to lay out town and Public lots and Pine lots and town Plot."

PITTSFORD March 8, 1774.

Then met on said Tuesday at the house of Ebenezer Hopkins and opened said meeting.

Firstly, voted that Jonathan Fassett should be a committee to lay out the land and 2 that Peleg Snnderland should be another, and 3 Ebenezer Lyman should be another, 4th that

Aaron —— be another, 5 and Lastly to adjourn said meeting to the 4th day of July at the house of Ebenezer Hopkins.”
PITTSFORD July ye 4th 1774.

Then met and opened said meeting on said Monday at the house of Ebenezer Hopkins and voted to lay out the pine lots, that all the pine lots should have the privilege of a two Rod Road between every other lot, meaning that each lot should have its timber on the Road and that each lot contain three acres. Then voted Ichabod Parker and Isaac Rood shall draw the Pine Lots and number the same.

Then voted that Stephen Mead may lay out fifty acres of his Second Division south of Penny's first lot.

Then voted that Renben Cooley should be one of the committee and also John Ewers another of the committee to lay out land.”

“PITTSFORD November ye 13th 1775.

Then met and opened said Meeting.

Firstly, Voted to chose a Proprietors' Clerk.

2d Voted that Samuel Ellsworth be the Clerk.

3d Voted to choose a Committee.

4th Chose Gideon Cooley William Cox and Amos Fassett committee men to lay out land.

5th Chose Samuel Waters, Samuel Ellsworth, Joshua Woodward and Gideon Sheldon, Committee men for the same purpose.

6th Voted to draw for the third Division on the first Monday of June next at one o'clock afternoon.”

“PITTSFORD March ye 12th 1776, then met according to adjournment and opened said Meeting.

1. Chose Ebenezer Hopkins, Moderator, Chose Nathan Fassett Clerk for said Proprietors, voted to adjourn this Meet-

ing to John Barnes untill the first monday of June next at one o'clock afternoon.

PITTSFORD June 3d 1776.

Then met according to adjournment in order to draw for our third Division Lots.

The meeting being opened,

1. Chose Ebenezer Hopkins, Moderator.

2d Chose Jona. Fassett Clerk, Pro. Tem. for said Meeting.

3d Voted to lay out one hundred acres for each lot with the addition of ten acres for roads.

4th Voted to begin the first Monday of October next to Pitch the third Division Lots.

5th Voted to lay out two Lots in a Day or to Pitch the same untill the whole is Pitched or laid out.

6th Voted that any man having a Piece of land adjoining to his land under fifteen acres shall have a right to take up said strip of land with a third Division lot.

7th Voted that any man having half a Pitch of Land may lay it by itself.

8th Voted that the lot joining Aaron Parsons on the East be for the first settled minister.

9th Voted that the lot laid out on the south side of Reuben Cooley's, be for a ministerial Lot.

10th Voted that the Church of England lot shall not lay south of the Ministerial or Gleeb Lot.

11th Voted that Moses Olmstead, Benjamin Cooley, Ebenezer Lyman be a committee to lay out the public lots.

12th Voted that the Lot south of the Ministerial lot be sold as a priviledge to the town to the highest bider, and they or he to lay a pitch on said Land, and the pay to go to the men that have expended cash for the town.

13th Voted that the man that bids of said land, if he Doth not pay for said land in one month from this date, the com-

mittee of Safety shall have a right to seize his Estate and make sale of the same for Payment.

Benjamin Cooley being the highest bidder, said lot was struck off to him at twenty one pounds New York money; and the committee at the same time Pitched the first lot for the Church of England, on the south side of a large Pond on the east side of said town.

Voted that Ebenezer Hopkins and Jonathan Fassett be a committee to receive the money from Benjamin Cooley and pay the Publick Debts which are behind and keep the rest until called for.

Voted that no committee lay out any land for any man that will not Pay the Money due for England money, so called, on account of cost by sending their agent."

The lots in each division were drawn in conformity to the vote of the Proprietors; and the following table will show the number of the lot in each division drawn by each Proprietor:

NAMES.	1st Div.	2d Div.	3d Div.	NAMES.	1st Div.	2d Div.	3d Div.
Ephraim Doolittle,	10	11	20	Nathan Moore,	22	38	11
Win. Nutting,	9	64	63	Robert Crofford,	23	51	33
Sam'l Bowers,	7	7	35	Edward Flint,	25	44	37
Joshua Hutchins,	6	58	50	Daniel McFarling,	24	38	31
Abraham Morton,	2	14	34	George Robins,	27	19	43
John Hubbard,	5	48	19	Philena Haywood,	2	59	61
Alexander Scott,	11	8	32	Ezra Saenger,	26	62	50
Andrew Powers,	15	23	18	John Oaks,	30	45	10
Lucius Doolittle,	14	26	9	John Jenks,	18	31	12
Ebenezer Harvey,	20	65	42	John Benham,	28	61	30
Joseph Burt,	12	23	4	Daniel Thomas,	20	27	18
Aaron Burt,	16	80	44	Ashbel Stiles,	31	42	24
Aaron Deulho,	17	53	22	Elisha Hall,	33	4	25
David Field,	19	34	48	Sam'l Mansfield,	32	9	8
John Ames,	21	3	26	John Hall the 5th,	40	12	53
Lieut. Merriman,	48	57	62	Philena Newton,			
Elisha Hall, Jr.,	38	46	39	Elisha Fuller,			
Chas. Whittlesey,	34	60	68	Samuel Fuller,			
David Oaks,	37	43	57	Samuel Fuller, Jr.,			
Elisha Whittlesey,	37	35	23	Elijah Fox,			
Nath'l Cheney,	39	66	17	Elisha Harvey,			

NAMES.	1st Div.	2d Div.	3d Div.	NAMES.	1st Div.	2d Div.	3d Div.
Lucius Hall,	42	15	6	Daniel Lord,			
Sam'l Whittlesey,	41	63	21	William Howard,			
Chaneey Whittlesey,	50	*		John Loomis,			
Jedediah Winslow,	54			Daniel Warner,			
Timothy Patterson,	1			Richard Wilbert,			
David Parpaw,	52			Daniel Boyden,			
Nathan Jewett,	58			Theo. Atkinson,			
Benja. Huntley,	53			Peter Johnson,			
Daniel Dreggs	50			Samuel Johnson,			
Amos Jones,	51			Jacob Hemenway,			
Minister's Lot,		24	54	Samuel Brewer,			
School Lot,	61	54	67	Joseph Arins,			
Society Lot,	64	10	52	Gleeb Lot.			

The following table shows the number of the Pine Lot drawn to each proprietor's name:

NAMES.	No.	NAMES.	No.
Timothy Patterson,	68	Daniel Warner,	49
David Parpaw,	65	Ebenezer Harvey,	42
Josiah Armes,	28	Joseph Burt,	4
Amos Jones,	58	Phineas Haywood,	61
William Nutting,	63	David Oaks,	57
Priest Lot,	67	Samuel Johnson,	7
Abraham Merton,	34	Theodore Atkinson,	20
Leat Meriman,	62	Nathau Jewett,	64
Elisha Hall, Jr.,	39	Alexander Scott,	32
George Whittlesey,	68	Nathaniel Cheney,	17
Samuel Fuller,	51	Aaron Denlio,	22
Daniel Thomas,	18	Daniel Boyden,	30
Samuel Whittlesey,	21	Elisha Whittlesey,	24
Edward Flint,	87	Ashbel Stiles,	9
Elisha Fuller,	47	John Hall, the 5th,	58
William Howard,	88	Aaron Burt,	44
Ephraim Doolittle,	29	Samuel Brewer,	14
Benjamin Huntley,	45	Joshua Johnson,	15
Society Lot,	54	Elisha Harvey,	1
Peter Johnson,	60	Joshua Hutchinson,	50
John Oaks,	10	Richard Wilbert,	58
John Jenks,	12	John Benham,	36
Samuel Mansfield,	8	Gleeb Lot,	27
Daniel Lord,	55	Elisha Hall,	25
Lucius Hall,	6	Daniel McFarling,	31
John Hubbard,	19	Jacob Hemenway,	16

* This table is a copy of the one in the Proprietors' records, but as will be seen it is not full.

NAMES.	No.	NAMES.	No.
Samuel Brewer,	35	Charles Whittlesey,	69
George Robins,	43	Lucius Doolittle,	23
Nathaniel More,	11	Jedediah Winslow,	41
Eliakah Fox,	2	Ezra Sanger,	59
School Lot,	52	Daniel Dreggs,	46
Phineas Nulling,	5	Chaneey Whittlesey,	3
Robert Crawford,	33	David Field,	48
Andrew Powers,	18	John Loonis,	40
John Arnes,	26		

The commencement of the revolutionary struggle on the 19th of April, 1775, checked the tide of immigration which had so auspiciously commenced, so that during the next five years, the population of the township was but little increased by the arrival of new families. It is not known that more than two families moved into the town in 1776. These were the Drury and Sweet families. John Barnes commenced to make his home here, and Darius Crippen married and located here this year.

The most of the Drury families in New England have probably descended from Hugh Drury, of Boston, who was made freeman in 1640, constable in 1654, and a member of the artillery company in 1655. He died in 1659, and was interred in Kings Chapel Cemetery. He had two sons, John and Thomas, one of whom was the father of Daniel who was born April 25, 1709. He married Sarah ——, who was born May 11, 1703. The former died June 9, 1786, the latter Nov. 30, 1775. Ebenezer, son of the above, was born in Shrewsbury, Mass., Jan. 17, 1734, O. S., and in 1762 married Hannah Keys, who was born April 17, 1742. They first located in Shrewsbury, but moved to Temple and again back to Shrewsbury. In the spring of 1776, Mr. Drury came to Pittsford and bought of Benjamin Cooley one hundred acres of land which included, with other land, the farm now owned by the heirs of the late Austin Andrews. The deed of this purchase was dated April 10, 1776, and was in consideration of £100. He made his first clearing and built a small house in what is

now a pasture, nearly two hundred rods west of the site of the present house. There are some vestiges of this building still in existence. It is evident that Mr. Drury removed his family here in the fall of this year.

Jonathan Sweet, quite likely a son of Samuel, of Bennington, located here this year. He bought one right of land (of which Andrew Powers was the original proprietor) and pitched two hundred and twenty acres of it November 23, 1774. This pitch included the farm now owned by Allen Mills. After making a clearing he built a log house which stood just south of the west road, near its junction with the north-and-south road, or some distance east of the present residence of Mr. Mills. He married and located here in 1776. He brought with him nine sheep, the first ever brought into Whipple Hollow, but the wolves destroyed all except one the first year.

John Barnes, son of John, was born in New Fairfield, Conn., March 13, 1756. His mother's maiden name was Waters, and she was sister of Samuel Waters before mentioned. When quite young, in company with his grandfather whose name was also John, he came to Pittsford on a tour of observation. In 1775, his father entered the army and died soon after in the service of his country. In the spring of 1776, he came to Pittsford and bought, quite likely of James Hopkins, a small lot of land which now forms a part of the farm owned by A. N. Loveland. He commenced at once to clear the land and build a house, and the work upon the latter was carried forward so rapidly that a Proprietors' meeting was held in it on the third day of June that year. This house stood about twelve rods north of the house now occupied by Mr. Loveland. Young Barnes continued to reside here a large part of the time alone until the 21st day of September, 1785, when he married Saloma Harwood* who was born in Bennington, March 5, 1768.

* Daughter of Rev. Eleazer Harwood.

Darins Crippen, son of David, married Abigail, daughter of Roger Stevens, and located on the home farm with his parents. How long the latter lived after this period we have no means of knowing, but it would appear that Darins bought his brother David's interest in the homestead in 1783, and quite likely the latter soon after left the town. Darins resided here till 1794, when he sold his farm to Elias Williams of Rutland. The deed was dated January 4th and was in consideration of £120. Crippen then moved to Bantard, Lower Canada, where he was afterwards drowned. Mrs. Crippen, after the death of her husband, went to live with her son in the western part of New York where she died.

Two families named the May and Ewings families, located here in 1777.

John May was born in England about the year 1746, and came to America when he was a young man. He purchased of Stephen Mead one hundred acres of land in Pittsford, the deed being dated "Jan. 16, 1777, and in the 15th year of his Majesty's reign." This included most of the farm now owned by Lewis White. The following spring he built a house a little southwest of the residence of Roger Stevens, the cellar of which may still be seen, about one-fourth of a mile south of the present residence of Mr. White, and near a large boulder on the east side of the road leading south to Sutherland Falls. He married and resided in this house several years. We cannot learn the maiden name of his wife.

James Ewings was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1749. Alexander Ewings, his father, was a Scotchman by birth, and a graduate of the University of Edinburgh. He entered the British army soon after his graduation and received an adjutant's commission in one of the regiments which was stationed at Cork, Ireland. There he married a Miss Sullivan and remained at that post with his regiment some years, and there a number of his children were born, including James and

Alexander. Early in 1755, his regiment was ordered to America under the command of the noted General Braddock. Adjntant Ewings accompanied his regiment,* taking his family with him, and on arriving in America he left them upon the coast and proceeded with his regiment to Fort Cumberland. He shared in the hardships of the unfortunate expedition against Fort du Quesne. On the retreat after the disaster of the 9th of July, a trivial circumstance occurred which changed the whole course of his life. At a safe point where the army had halted to gather up its scattered fragments, and care for the wounded that had been brought along, the Adjutant was approached by certain ones in authority and asked to act as chaplain—performing the burial service over the dead bodies of some officers. He took off his sword and performed the service, bnt he declared that *he could never put it on again*. Soon afterwards he and his brother, a captain in the same regiment, procured their discharge from the army. The Captain settled in Philadelphia as a lawyer; the Adjutant in Massachusetts, where he became a Baptist clergyman. Rev. Alexander Ewings was the father of a large family—seven sons and one daughter—though the names of only three are now remembered by our informant—James and Alexander, Jr., already mentioned, and John, who settled in the northern part of the State of Vermont.

James was six years of age at the time he was embarked with his father's family on board a vessel bound for America. They landed in Boston, and after the father obtained his discharge from the army, they resided some years in Greenwich, Mass. James married Naomi, daughter of Benjamin Cooley of that town, in 1775. Their eldest son, Benjamin, was born in May, 1776. The following year Mr. Ewings came to Pittsford and bought of Darins Crippen fifty acres of land,† lying south of said

* Two regiments were sent out at this time under Braddock.

† This was a part of the first division of the right of John Oaks.

Crippen's home farm, and with some additions afterwards purchased, it included the farm now owned by Artemas C. Powers. He made the first clearing on that farm and built a house on the west side of the road exactly opposite the present house. He removed his family here in the fall of that year.

Joshua June, Nehemiah Hopkins, Timothy Barker and Abel Stevens located here in 1778.

The ancestors of Joshua June resided in Stamford, Conn., where, it is supposed, he was born about the year 1756. Soon after coming to this town he married Sarah, eldest daughter of William Cox, who gave him one hundred and ten acres of land from the north part of his home farm, the deed being dated March 23, 1779. Mr. June built a house about one-half a mile northeast of the residence of Mr. Cox, the location of which may still be seen in the field, about one hundred rods north of the stone house owned by Junia Sargent, and about three rods from, and on the west side of, the present highway leading to Brandon; a pile of stones now occupies the place of the cellar. The house was completed and occupied early in the summer of that year.

Nehemiah Hopkins was the second son of Ebenezer—before mentioned—and was, probably, born in Harwinton, Conn., where he spent his childhood. He married Tryphene Smith and settled in Stockbridge, Mass., where were born to them five sons, Ebenezer, Nehemiah, Ashbel, Martin and Matthew; and four daughters, Jemima, Tryphene, Rachel and Sylvia. He came to Pittsford in 1778, and purchased the tract of land upon which Mill Village is now located. He made a clearing and built a log house which stood about ten rods west of the present residence of John Stevens, and here he removed his family in the fall of that year.

Timothy Barker was one of the early settlers of Neshobe—now Brandon—and, for a few years, was quite a prominent man in that township. At a general convention of delegates

from the towns in the New Hampshire Grants, held at Dorset, Sept. 25th, 1776, "Capt. Timothy Barker" was one of the delegates from Neshobe. In 1778, he married the widow of Isaac Buck, and removed his residence from Neshobe to Pittsford, and occupied the house already mentioned as having been built by Mr. Buck. An adjourned Proprietors' meeting was "held at the house of Timothy Barker, on the west side of the Creek, October 12th, 1779."

This year Abel Stevens, son of Roger, married Ennice, daughter of Isaac Buck, and on the 21st of November bought of his father one hundred and forty-five acres of land, bounded on the north by land of Benjamin Cooley, on the east by land of Col. E. Doolittle, on the south by land of Eleazer Harwood, and on the west by the Creek. The consideration was £400. This included the farm recently owned by the late Deming Gorham. Mr. Stevens built the low part of the present house and resided there till 1796,* when he removed to Bastard, County of Leeds, Canada, where he died in 1816. We are informed that he was a man of earnest piety, and a preacher of the Methodist doctrine.

Richard S. Adams, from Connecticut, located here in 1779, making his first pitch April 9th, on the right of John Loomis in the third division of lots. This included what has since been known as the Beals place, now owned by John Eggleston. He made the first improvements on that farm, and the house built by him stood on the east side of the east-and-west road, and about half-way between where Mr. Eggleston's house now stands and the four-corners—so called—a short distance westward. Before coming to Pittsford, he had married Lucy Matson, half-sister of Dea. Caleb Hendee's wife. He resided here till 1798, when he sold his farm to Solomon Purdy, of Rhinebeck, and soon after moved to Bastard, Canada, with all his children, whose names were Saxton, Daniel, Joshua and Lucy.

* Mr. Stevens sold his farm to Ichabod Cross March 4, 1793.

CHAPTER III.

Origin of the Land-title controversy; Rapacity of the Colonial Governors of New York; Charter of Socialborough; Attempts of the Grantees to enforce their claims; Resistance to the New York officials; Conventions of the people of the New Hampshire Grants.

The early settlers had scarcely become established in their new homes, ere they found themselves involved in a controversy which had, for some time, existed between New Hampshire and New York, respecting their division line. The history of this "Land-Title Controversy"—for such it truly was—belongs no more to Pittsford than to other towns in the State; but it will be needful to glance at some of its more prominent features, in order to understand some important events, which took place in the early settlement of this township.

It should be remembered that the Dutch first colonized New York under the name of New Netherland, and that between them and the English colonies of Connecticut, there was not the most friendly feeling. Jealousies and animosities were frequently springing up between them, and as their settlements extended, their boundaries became a source of serious contention. By an agreement, however, entered into on 19th Sept., 1650, by representatives of the two parties, their division-line was defined as "beginning at the west side of Greenwich Bay, being about four miles from Stamford, and running a northerly line twenty miles up into the country, and after as it should be agreed by the two governments of the Dutch and of New Haven, provided the said line come not within ten miles of Hudson's river. And it was agreed that these bounds and

limits should be observed and kept inviolate, both by the English and United Colonies, and all the nation without any encroachment or molestation, until a full and final determination be agreed upon in Europe, by the mutual consent of the States of England and Holland." This treaty-boundary was formally approved and ratified, under the seal of the States General of the United Netherlands, Feb. 22, 1656, as the line of division between New Netherland and New England.

But the English government, regarding the Dutch as intruders upon their territory, resolved upon the conquest of New Netherland. As a preliminary measure King Charles the Second, on the 12th of March, 1664, issued to his brother James, the Duke of York, a grant of all the land from the west side of Connecticut river to the east side of Delaware Bay, and the Duke was authorized to employ the necessary force to make his grant available.

Accordingly an expedition was fitted out which, being joined by troops from Connecticut, appeared before New Amsterdam, and made a formal demand for its surrender to the English crown. Terms favorable to the Dutch having been agreed upon, New Amsterdam, with all its dependencies, was surrendered to the English, Sept. 8, 1664.

The boundaries of this grant were probably never intended as definite limits, since this would interfere with former grants, "but rather as outer limits within which New Netherland, the object of the grant, was supposed to be included."^{*} The natural inference from all the circumstances attending the issue is, that the description was designed to indicate New Netherland as the object of the grant, leaving its extent and limits, then imperfectly known to the Crown, to be afterwards ascertained and determined.

Accordingly, within less than two weeks after the conquest of New Netherland, the Assembly of Connecticut appointed

^{*} Early history of Vermont.

five commissioners, to settle with the King's commissioners the boundary-line. These commissioners convened at New York, and after a full hearing, made their decision in regard to the conflict of boundaries in the two charters as follows, viz.: "that the creek or river called Mamaroneek which is reputed to be about thirteen miles to the east of Winchester, and in a line drawn from the east point or side where the fresh water falls into the salt, at high water mark, north-northwest to the line of the Massachusetts, be the western bounds of the said colony of Connecticut, &c." This decision of the commissioners was accepted for a time by both parties, but it was soon found that there was a great defect in the language by which the division-line had been defined in 1664, especially in the direction of its northern line, which, running north-northwest, would cross Hudson's river instead of being parallel to its general course.

The King's commissioners asserted that they never intended the line to come within less than twenty miles of that river, and by further negotiations it was surveyed and established* at a distance of twenty miles from the Hudson.

The adjustment of this boundary-controversy between New York and Connecticut, in terms applied only to the boundary between those two provinces; but there is abundant evidence to show that the line running parallel with the Hudson at the distance of twenty miles eastward was understood at the time to apply to the whole eastern boundary of the Duke's patent. Agreeably to this understanding Massachusetts proceeded to make grants of townships west of the Connecticut river, and this territory was rapidly filling up by immigration from the easterly part of the State. Very soon it was dotted with flourishing settlements. But in 1753, the government of New York, for the first time, notified the government of Massachusetts, that under the charter to the Duke of York, she

* This was established in 1731.

claimed the territory eastward to the Connecticut river. The disturbances growing out of these conflicting claims soon became so serious as to attract the attention of the Board of Trade who summoned before them the agents of the respective provinces, then in England, and having heard what they had to say upon the subject, on the 25th of May, 1757, made a representation of the case to the King.

In their report they say "we are of opinion that a line to be drawn northerly from a point on the south boundary line of Massachusetts Bay, twenty miles due east from Hudson's river, to another point twenty miles distant due east from the said river, on that line which divides the province of New Hampshire and the Massachusetts Bay, would be a just and equitable line of division between your Majesty's provinces of New York and Massachusetts Bay. They therefore recommend the establishment of such boundary line by his Majesty's order in council." The line thus recommended not being satisfactory to the government of either province, no further attempt was made at that time to settle the pending controversy.

But the disturbances continuing, the Earl of Shelburne by command of the King addressed letters to the governors of the respective colonies recommending that effectual measures be taken to settle every difference relating to their boundaries by commissioners appointed from each for that purpose. Accordingly commissioners were appointed who met at New Haven, October 1, 1767, but after a session of several days, separated without coming to an agreement. In 1773, other commissioners appointed and duly authorized by the respective provinces, met at Hartford and executed in the presence and with the approval of the governors of the two provinces an agreement by indenture in which it was declared that, "A line beginning at a place fixed upon by the two governments of New York and Connecticut, in or about A. D. 1731, for the northwest corner of a tract of land commonly called the Oblong or equivalent land,

and running from the said corner north twenty-one degrees ten minutes and thirty seconds east, as the magnetic needle now points, to the north line of Massachusetts Bay, shall at all times hereafter be the line of jurisdiction between the said province of Massachusetts Bay and the said province of New York, in all and every part and place where the said province of New York on its eastern boundary, shall adjoin on the said province of the said Massachusetts Bay." This line though described in different language was substantially the same as that recommended by the Board of Trade in 1757.

Soon after the establishment of the line between Massachusetts and New Hampshire in 1740, Benning Wentworth of Portsmouth was appointed Governor of the latter province; and his commission in defining the limits of his jurisdiction states that it was to extend westward till it "meets with our other governments." After the establishment of the boundary between New York and Connecticut in 1731, it was generally understood that the eastern boundary of New York was a line beginning at the northwest corner of Connecticut and running at a distance of twenty miles from the Hudson to Lake Champlain. And that such was the understanding of the British government, is evident from the fact that the maps of the British American provinces which were used for reference by the government, contain such a distinctly marked line. The evidence upon this subject was so convincing that Gov. Wentworth did not hesitate to grant townships on the west side of Connecticut river though careful to avoid encroaching upon the territory of New York. But as this line had not been definitely established, on the 17th of November, 1749, the Governor wrote Gov. Clinton that he had it in command from his majesty to make grants of unimproved lands within his government to such persons as would obligate themselves to improve the same; that applications were coming in for the laying out of some townships in the western part of it; and that wishing to avoid,

as far as he could, interfering with the government of His Excellency, he enclosed a copy of his commission from the King, and desired to be informed how far north of Albany and how many miles east of Hudson's river, to the northward of Massachusetts line, his (Gov. Clinton's) government, by his majesty's commission, extended.

This letter having been laid before the New York council, they advised Gov. Clinton to acquaint Gov. Wentworth "that this province is bounded easterly by Connecticut river; the letters patent from King Charles the Second to the Duke of York, expressly granting all the lands from the west side of Connecticut river, to the east side of Delaware Bay." This advice being communicated to Gov. Wentworth an earnest correspondence ensued between the two governors, the one claiming to the Connecticut river, and the other to a line twenty miles from the Hudson, but reaching no satisfactory result they mutually agreed to refer the matter to the decision of the King.

The subject having been brought before the Board of Trade, the New York claim was urged with so much skill and vehemence, that in July, 1764, an order was obtained of the King in council, declaring "the west bank of the river Connecticut, from where it enters the province of Massachusetts Bay, as far north as the 45th degree of north latitude, to be the boundary-line between the two provinces of New Hampshire and New York. The territory thus annexed to New York comprised the whole of the State of Vermont, and having up to this time been considered a part of New Hampshire, a large proportion of it had been granted in townships of six miles square by Gov. Wentworth and in a few of these were quite flourishing settlements. This change of jurisdiction had been made without consulting the inhabitants, who were to be most affected thereby, and even without their knowledge. Had the change been confined to jurisdiction only they would have submitted

without any serious opposition, though the most of them would have preferred to remain under the laws and institutions of New Hampshire. But when the New York government went farther, and, disregarding the claims of the settlers, proceeded to grant their property to other parties, it aroused the most serious indignation.

The order of the King annexing the New Hampshire grants to New York, though dated July 20, 1764, was not made known to the settlers till the following year, 1765. On the 10th of April of that year, Lieut.-Gov. Colden laid it before the New York council, and in pursuance of their advice, issued a proclamation giving notice of the same—"to the end that all his Majesty's subjects within the province might conform thereto and govern themselves accordingly." No sooner was this proclamation made known to the Proprietors of Pittsford than they adopted such measures as they supposed would insure to them a confirmation of their charter, and the following address and petition were presented to Lieut.-Gov. Colden:

Dated at Shrewsbury in the Province of Massachusetts Bay,
June 24th, A. D. 1765.

To the Hon'ble Cadwallader Colden, Esqr., Lieut. Governor
and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province
of New York, &c., and the Hon'ble his Majesties
Counsel.

The petition of a number of persons who, as they thought, obtained his Majesties Grant of a Township or tract of land by the mediation of his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief of his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, the Honourable his Majesties Council of said Province, situate West of Connecticut River, on Otter Creek. Beginning at the Northwest corner of the Township of Rutland so granted, from thence extending North four degrees West six miles, from thence East five degrees south six miles, from thence South twenty degrees East to Rutland

North East corner, from thence West five degrees North by Rutland to the bounds first mentioned, by the name of Pittsford, and that your Petitioners have surveyed said Township, and have made some improvements thereon with raised expectations of making good settlements for ourselves and Familys, bnt on reading your Honours former Proclamation in the year A. D. 1764, laying claim to the land West of Connectient River, great scruples arose in our minds with regard to the validity of our aforesaid grant, whereby the prosecutio[n] of our settlements hath been retarded in a grent measure, and by yours Honours late Proclamation we are informed, that his Majestie and Conceil have actnally established Conectient River ns the bounddry line between the Governments of New York and New Hampshire, by which we are ascertained of our Grants being in the Government and jurisdiction of New York, & being desireous of obtaining a confirmation of our Grants and of becoming inhabitants in said Government of New York, and being informed by Gents. who have been with your Honour for instrnctions, with regard to such Grants there can be no grant given as yet, and that our condnet which will be most agreeable to recommend us to the obtaining such grants will be to pursue our settlements with the utmost vigour; we pray that your Honour will receive this our humble adress, and while we are pursuing our settlements, bear in mind our sinsear endeavours to become a respectable part of your Honours governuent, and in proper time will give us opportunity of not only knowing our duty in complying with the Constitution of the government of New York, bnt of attending to those measures as shall be requisite in procuring a confirmation of our Land; and until which may be accomplished we ground our hopes on your Honour and Honours Wise administration of his majesties Government, and the humane disposition which we doubt not but your honours are Possest of towards your fellow men. We would further inform your

honours, that the greatest part of us have obtained the knowledge of those lands by our services in the late war at the reduction of his Majesties enemies, and as we have been at considerable expence already on ac^t. of our grant, and most of us are unable to loose such cost without destresing ourselves and familys, we are the rather encouraged to hope and as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

JOSHUA JOHNSON,
PETER JOHNSON,
SAMUEL BREWER,

} Proper Committee.

This petition was unheeded, though the Proprietors had been encouraged by Gov. Wentworth to believe, that if the King should see fit to change the boundary, the title to their lands legally obtained from the government of New Hampshire would be respected. But as the value of these lands became more generally known, they were eagerly sought, not by those who wished to cultivate and improve them, but by New York speculators. And Gov. Colden finding this a favorable opportunity for enhancing his private fortune by the fees, carried on a lucrative business in the granting of townships, till his career was suddenly arrested by the notorious Stamp Act of the British Parliament, which required all instruments of contract, such as bonds, notes, deeds, &c., to be executed upon stamped paper, for which a duty was to be paid to the Crown; and any contract not thus executed was to be null and void. This act produced great agitation throughout the country, and so excited the populace that, in some instances, they assaulted the stamp officers and compelled them to give up the stamps. Some of these odious stamps were destroyed, and others were either re-shipped to England or carefully guarded, so that none found their way into the places of business. As all land patents were to be void unless stamped, and as the stamps could not be obtained, their further issue was necessarily suspended.

Up to this time the patents of Vermont lands issued by Colden covered over one hundred and seventy-four thousand acres, nearly all of which had been previously granted by New Hampshire.

On the 12th of November, Sir Henry Moore arrived from England and superseded Colden in the government of New York. At once there came pouring in upon him from the Proprietors of the New Hampshire grants, complaints against the acts of his predecessor in granting their lands to other parties; and he was petitioned to confirm to them their titles. While he pretended to listen to these petitions with some degree of respect, he gave no assurance of protection against the land patents issued by Colden, nor any security against future grants. But the excitement ran so high that he felt compelled to make some show of conciliation; and he therefore had an order passed by his council and published, allowing three months from the 6th day of June 1766, for all persons holding or claiming lands under grants from the government of New Hampshire, to appear by themselves or their attorneys and produce the same, together with all deeds, conveyances or other instruments, by which they derive any title or claim to the said lands, before his Excellency in council, and that the claims of such person or persons who should not appear and support the same as aforesaid, within the space of three months, be rejected.*

While this procedure made some pretension of favor towards the New Hampshire charters, the fees demanded by the New York officials for a confirmation of the same, virtually amounted to a prohibition. The fees to the Governor of New Hampshire for the granting of a township, were about one hundred dollars, while under the government of New York, two thousand, or two thousand six hundred† were demanded for a confirmation of one of those charters. This unreasonable

* Doc. His. of N. Y., Vol. IV., page 587.

† Williams' History of Vt., Vol. II., page 19.

demand could hardly be complied with, inasmuch as most of the early settlers were men of slender means who had expended what they had, in acquiring the New Hampshire title to their lands and in making improvements upon them.

Failing to obtain relief from the government of New York, the Proprietors of the New Hampshire grants resolved to apply for the redress of their grievances to the good sense of the King. Accordingly a petition was prepared and signed by over one thousand settlers and grantees, and Samuel Robinson, Esq., of Bennington, was appointed their agent to lay it before His Majesty. Mr. Robinson landed in England on the 30th of January, 1767. Deeming it advisable to set forth the grievances of the claimants in greater detail than was stated in the petition of which he was the bearer, he drew up a new petition and subscribed it, in behalf of himself and more than one thousand other grantees, and this was delivered to Lord Shelburne, principal Secretary of State for the colonies, the 20th of March, to be laid before His Majesty in council.*

The action of the King in council is stated in a letter from Lord Shelburne, to Gov. Moore, dated April 11, 1767, in which he says: "I am to signify to you His Majesty's command that you make no new grants of these lands, and that you do not molest any person in the quiet possession of his grant who can produce good and valid deeds for such grant under the seal of the province of New Hampshire until you receive further orders respecting them. You are directed to take care that the inhabitants, lying westward of the line represented by the Board of Trade, as the boundary of the two provinces, be not molested on account of territorial differences or disputed jurisdiction, for whatever province the settlers may be found to belong to, it should make no difference in their property, provided that their titles to their lands should be found good in other respects, or that they have long been in the unin-

* Early History of Vermont, page 88.

terrupted possession of them. The power of granting lands was vested in the governors of the colony, originally, for the purpose of accommodating, not distressing settlers, especially the poor and indistrions.

The unreasonableness of obliging a very large tract of country to pay a *second time* the immense sum of £33,000 in fees, according to the allegations of this petition, for no other reason than its being found necessary to settle the line of boundary between the colonies, is so unjustifiable that His Majesty is not only determined to have the strictest inquiry made into the circumstances of the charge, but expects the clearest and fullest answer to every part of it.*

To this letter Gov. Moore made an elaborate reply, full of quibbles and evasions, which produced no change, however, in His Majesty's determination, as expressed in Lord Shelburne's letter; and on the 24th of July following an order of the King in council was made, commanding the Governor of New York upon pain of His Majesty's highest displeasure, to make no grant whatever of any part of the controverted lands, until His Majesty's further pleasure should be known concerning the same.† This order was afterwards strictly observed by Gov. Moore; but his death, which occurred Sept. 11, 1769, brought Mr. Colden again to the head of the New York government, who, disregarding the King's order in council, resumed the work of issuing patents of the controverted lands, and proceeded therein as fast as parties could be found who were willing to advance the patent fees. At the close of his administration, Oct. 18th, 1770, (it had continued more than a year,) his patents covered more than six hundred thousand acres of government lands, and he had realized from the same about \$25,000 in money besides reserving to himself in the name of others, more than twenty thousand acres.

* Doc. Hist. of N. Y., Vol. IV., page 589.

† Doc. Hist. N. Y., Vol. IV., p. 609.

Colden was succeeded in the government by John Murray, titled Earl Dunmore, a rapacious Scottish peer who, on his arrival in this country, was immediately involved in a quarrel with Colden in respect to the fees of certain land patents which the latter had rushed through his office, for the purpose of pocketing the fees. Colden being the winner of the game, Dunmore was left to amplify his own fortune in the lucrative manner of his predecessor. And as proof of his industry it may be stated that in the short space of eight months he had granted to speculators four hundred and fifty thousand acres of Vermont lands and received the fees for the same, and also had granted to himself in the name of others fifty-one thousand acres more.

Among the patents issued by Colden was that of Socialborough, covering the townships of Pittsford and Rutland, which had been granted ten years before by Gov. Wentworth. The following is a copy of the return of the survey of this patent :

Pursuant to an order in Council from his Excellency, the Right Honorable John Earl of Dunmore, Captain General and Governor in Chief, in and over the province of New York, and the Territories Depending thereon in America, Chancellor and Vice Admiral of the same, bearing Date the thirteenth Day of this present month of March,

I have laid out for John Harris Cruger and his associates, All that certain Tract of land surveyed in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-seven by my Deputy William Cockburn, situate lying and being on both sides of Otter Creek, in the County of Albany within the province of New York, which said tract begins on the East side of the said Otter Creek in a line of trees marked the same year by my Deputy, Archibald Campbell, for the North bounds of a Township Erected by the Government of New Hampshire, under the

Name of Clarendon, and runs from the said place of beginning along the said line of marked trees, South eighty-six degrees East, two hundred and nine chains; Then North thirteen degrees West, one thousand and fifty-two chains; Then West five hundred chains; Then South thirteen degrees East one thousand and nineteen chains; and then South eighty six degrees East, two hundred and ninety-nine chains to the place where this Tract began, Containing Forty eight Thousand acres of land and the usual allowance for highways.

Given under my hand this Twenty second day of March
one Thousand seven hundred and seventy-one.

ALEX COLDEN, Surveyor Genl.

Dunmore having been appointed to the governorship of Virginia, was succeeded in the government of New York by Sir William Tryon, who arrived from North Carolina in July, 1771. He was a proud aristocrat and proved to be as unscrupulous as either of his predecessors, but continued to administer the government until April, 1774, when in obedience to the mandates of the ministry, he departed for England, leaving the government in the temporary charge of Lieut.-Gov. Colden. During this period of his administration, Tryon had issued patents for over two hundred thousand acres of land within the disputed territory, a large portion of which had been previously granted by New Hampshire. He had also provided for himself a township of thirty-two thousand acres by the name of Norbury, situated in the present county of Washington.

During Tryon's absence, from the 7th of April, 1774, to the first of July, 1775, Colden prosecuted the work of issuing land patents so vigorously, that not less than some four hundred thousand acres of Vermont lands were granted during this short period, the fees for which were not less than ten thousand dollars. Up to this time, the amount of these lands patented by New York exceeded two millions of acres, the most of

which had been granted in direct violation of the King's order of July, 1767.*

We thus have some general idea of the grasping selfishness of the New York governors, whose only object seems to have been to enrich themselves, at the expense of the people whom they were appointed to govern. The only wonder is that such men should have been tolerated so long by an intelligent and spirited people.

On the arrival of Tryon from England, the 25th of June, he found the country involved in civil war; and though he tarried for a limited time, the prejudices of the people against him and the government he represented were so strong that he found it necessary to take refuge on board a British man-of-war in the harbor of New York, and soon after he departed from the country.

We have thus sketched a general outline of the origin and character of the respective claims of the governments of New York and New Hampshire to the territory now constituting the State of Vermont.

We are next to notice briefly the controversy between the settlers and the New York claimants, in respect to the soil claimed under conflicting grants; and, as we proceed, we shall see what the Proprietors and early settlers of Pittsford had to do with this unfortunate contest.

About the year 1770, some New York patentees attempted to get possession of lands occupied by claimants under the New Hampshire charters, and served upon them writs of ejectment, returnable to the court at Albany. These actions were to be tried in June, and although the settlers had but little confidence in the New York courts, they resolved to appear and defend their rights. The first case for trial was that of John Small against Isaac Carpenter, relating to land in Shaftsbury. The council for the plaintiff produced the patent of his client

* Early Hist. of Vt., page 109.

obtained from the Governor of New York, as the evidence of his claim. The counsel for the defendant offered in evidence the New Hampshire charter dated August 20, 1761, four years before the plaintiff's patent, together with authentic copies of Governor Wentworth's commission, and the King's instruction, authorizing him to grant lands.* But the court decided that New York had always extended eastward to the Connecticut river, and that consequently the New Hampshire charter was null and void, and refused to allow it to be read to the jury. As the result of this ruling, judgment was obtained for the plaintiff; and this being a test case foreshadowed the verdict in all the other cases. The result of this trial was not unexpected, as it was well known that the Lieutenant-Governor, the prosecuting attorneys, and the presiding judge were interested parties in these suits, all claiming lands in the disputed territory by virtue of the New York title.

But the New York patentees found it one thing to obtain the decision of the Albany court in their favor, and quite another thing to enforce that decision. The Sheriffs in attempting to execute the writs in the ejectment suits, met with determined opposition. The settlers felt that they had justice and equity on their side, and more than all that the validity of their title had been repeatedly recognized by the King; and they deliberately concluded to defend their possessions at all hazards.

The plaintiff's in the Albany suits sent the sheriff to dispossess the occupants of certain lands which had been adjudged to them by the court; but this officer found the settlers assembled in arms, and they "threatened," as he said, "to blow his brains out if he proceeded."

It became evident that these lands could not be made available to the plaintiffs, without a strong force to assist the sheriff in the execution of his writs. It was therefore resolved to call

* Early Hist. of Vt., p. 118.

to his aid the military power of the country. A general summons to the citizens of Albany was issued to meet at the time and place appointed, and on the 18th of July, 1771, the sheriff set out on his mission at the head of about three hundred men of all grades and professions. This corps was somewhat augmented by accessions on the way. But the settlers had received timely notice of the approach of the sheriff and his *posse*, and had made the necessary preparation for effectual resistance. As the New York party drew near, they discovered the formidable opposition with which they had to contend, and being unwilling to risk their lives in so perilous an undertaking, they withdrew and left the settlers in undisputed possession of the field.

Hitherto no effort had been made to dispossess the Proprietors and settlers of Pittsford of the lands upon which they were then engaged in making extensive improvements. And notwithstanding the unfavorable reception which had been given to a former petition, they drew up the following which was conveyed to Albany by a special messenger :*

To his Excellency the Right Honorable John Earl of Dunmore, Captain General and Governor in Chief of The Province of New York, &c &c &c

In Councill.

The Petition of the subscribers Inhabitants on a Tract of land commonly called Pittsford, on Otter Creek, about Twenty Six miles South Easterly from Crown point,

Humbly Sheweth,

That there is a certain Tract of vacant land now within this province, formerly Deemed and reputed to be within the province of New Hampshire, lying to the Northward of the Great Falls on Otter creek, commonly called Rutland falls, and bounded as followeth; Beginning at a Maple

* Supposed to have been Benjamin Cooley.

Tree Marked *P. P.* on the North line of Rntland, which line divides pitsford from Rntland, as was granted by the Government of New Hampshire. Thence runs West five degrees North, foure miles and ten Rods to a Beach Tree, from thence runs North twelve degrees West, six miles to a Beach Tree, from thence runs East five degrees South foure miles and ten Rods to a Beach Tree, from thence runs South twelve degrees East six miles to the place where it began, containing Fifteen Thousand acres, Which Tract of land was granted by the Governor and Comsell of the Provincee of New Hampshire, in consequence of which we your Excellencys petitioners have actually settled and made considerable improvements thereon; and are willing and desirous to compleet the same. Therefore most humbly pray your Exceelency will be favourably plesed to grant us the same under the usual restrictions &c, and your Excellencys Petitioners shall ever pray.

BENJAMIN COOLEY,	DANIEL JOHNS,
ISAAC ROODE,	WILLIAM MARSHALL,
JAMES MEADE,	SAMULL CRIPPER,
SAMUEL WATERS,	ISAAC BUCK,
FELIX POWEL,	JEAMS HOPKINS,
PELEG SUNDERLING,	GIDEON WARRIN,
ASA JOHNSON,	MOSES UMSTEAD,

BLESS WILLOUGHBY.

This petition was presented January 12, 1771, and upon the back of it we find the following endorsements:

"1771, Jaunary 17. Read in Council, referred to a committee.

1771, February 28. To be postponed until final orders are received touching these lands."

If any "final orders" were received previously to the 3d of April following, they are not discoverable; but on that day Gov. Daumore issued the patent of Socialborough, the survey

of which had previously been ordered, as will appear from the return of the Surveyor-General which has already been given. This grant, made in violation of the King's prohibitory order, covered forty-eight thousand acres, and was made to forty-eight grantees, each of whom was to have one thousand acres; but a few days after the patent was issued, the majority of them conveyed their shares to a few speculators of New York city for whose benefit the grant had really been made, and who were the prime movers in all the suits instituted to eject the New Hampshire claimants.* James Duane, a famous New York attorney, claimed fifteen thousand acres of this land, Goldsbrow Banyar and William Walton each four thousand, and John Kelley claimed six thousand.

The New Hampshire settlers did not seriously object to being transferred to the jurisdiction of New York, and so long as the officials of that province confined themselves to their legitimate duties they were duly respected; but when they went beyond this and attempted to take private property, for no other reason than that the title to it had been obtained from the government of New Hampshire, they encountered such treatment as is indicated in the following :

"LETTER FROM WILLIAM COCKBURN TO JAMES DUANE.

ALBANY, 10th Sept., 1771.

SIR—Your favor of the 16th August and the £6—2—9 of Mr. Robert Yates I received on my return here after being the second time stopped in Socialborough, by James Mead and Asa Johnson in behalf of the settlers in Rutland and Pittsford. I have run out lots from the south bounds to within about two miles of the Great Falls. I found it in vain to persist any longer, as they were resolved at all events to stop us; there have been many threats pronounced against me. Gideon Cooley, who lives by the Great Falls, headed the party who was to

* Early Hist. Vt., p. 168.

shoot me. * * * * * a fellow of no residence and one * * * * * of Tinmouth were the principal, and your acquaintance Nathaniel Allen, was in the woods with another party, blacked and dressed like Indians as I was informed. Several of my men can prove Townsend and Train threatening my life, that I should never return home, &c., though they denied every thing to me. The inhabitants denied that they *knowed* any thing about these men, though the people of Dunham assured me that those men pretended to murder us if we did not go from thence, and advised me by all means to desist from running through, some said they were sorry for it as it might hurt them all settling with the Proprietors easily. After being stopped I found I would not be allowed to go to the northward, as they suspected I would begin again, and therefore intended to convey us to Danby, and so on to the southward, and by all accounts, we should not have been very kindly treated. I was advised by no means to go that road—my provision I was obliged to bring out by Major Slones. On my assuring them I would survey no more in those parts, we were permitted to proceed along the Crown Point road with the hearty prayers of the women as we passed never to return. We came off all safe, with the loss of one horse and two more in bad condition. Spencer's return I made out at Albany Court and sent to New York I then informed you of the manner and returned. You know well Mr. Colden will not allow me to make return before they are lodged with him. I have not been able to fix Kier's location and Danby people have been continually on the watch all way—some I am told at and near their corner since I have been here, several have visited us asking questions and no doubt to be able to know us should we venture within their territories, and at the same time warning us of the dangers should we be found there. Marsh's survey is likewise undone as I did not care to venture myself that way. I shall be able to inform

you more particularly at meeting and am sir, your most ob't
serv't,

WILLIAM COCKBURN."

The New York patentees—as we have noticed already—called for the surrender of the New Hampshire charters of Pittsford and Rutland, and required all who held lands under those charters to take new titles from *them*, for which large fees were demanded, but the demand not being complied with, they proceeded to dispose of these lands to other parties, who, in attempting to locate them, met with no very encouraging success, as will appear from the following:

"LETTER FROM BENJAMIN SPENCER TO JAMES DUANE.

DURHAM, April, 1772.

Sir:—The people of Socialborough decline buying of their lands, saving four or five, and say they will defend them by force. The people that settled under Lydius title, and those that have come in this spring have agreed for their lands. The New Hampshire people strictly forbid any further survey being made of Socialborough, or any settlements being made only under the New Hampshire title; which riotous spirit has prevented many inhabitants settling this spring. You may ask why I do not proceed against them in a due course of law, but you need not wonder when I tell you that it has got to that the people go armed and guards set in the roads to examine people what their business is, and where they are going and if they do not give a particular account, they are beaten in a most shamefull manner, and it has got to that they say they will not be brought to justice by this province, and bid defiance to any authority in the province. We are threatened at distance of being turned off our lands or our crops destroyed I have this opportunity of writing, by way of Major Skeene, and have not opportunity of informing you of the number of lots and men's

names that you may draw the deeds, but will send them the first opportunity, as it will take some time to view the lots and give a particular account. I hope the survey of our patent may not be stopped on account of this tumult, as we shall labor under a great disadvantage if our lands are not divided this spring. I look upon it to be dangerous for Mr. Cockburn to come into the country until these people can be subdued, he may come here by way of Major Skeene but he cannot do any work only what he doth for us, if he attempts any further, I am afraid of the consequences, but if he does not care to come, I desire that some person may be employed hereabout that we may know where our land is, which I should be glad you would inform me of, as soon as possible. One Ethan Allen hath brought from Connecticut twelve or fifteen of the most black-guard fellows he can get, double armed in order to protect him, and if some method is not taken to subdue the towns of Bennington, Shaftsbury, Arlington, Manchester and those people in Socialborongh, and others scattered about the woods, there had as good be an end of government.

I am with all due regard,

Your humble servant,

BENJAMIN SPENCER."*

The estimation in which the New York officials were held by the New Hampshire settlers, may be seen in the following:

DEPOSITION OF CHARLES BUTTON.

County of Cumberland, ss.—Charles Button of a place called Durham on the bank of Otter Creek on the west side of the Green Mountains, in the county of Charlotte and province of New York, of full age duly sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth and saith, that the deponent with others to the number of thirty-five families, seated themselves upon the said tract, and hold a title derived from the province of

* Benjamin Spencer was one of the earliest settlers of Clarendon, purchased his land under a title derived from New York, was a Tory in the Revolution, and in 1777, sought protection under Burgoyne at Ticonderoga and died there soon after his arrival.

New York, that the deponent has lived with his family upon the same track since the 8th day of February, 1768, has cleared and improved a large farm, built a good dwelling house with other outhouses, and was lately offered a thousand pounds current money of New York for his improvements. That about eleven o'clock night on Saturday the 20th instant, as the deponent is informed and verily believes, Remineber Baker, Ethan Allen, Robert Cochrane and a number of other persons, armed with guns, cutlasses, &c., came to the house of Benjamin Spencer Esq. of said Durham who holds his farm under a title derived from the government of New York, and break open the said house, and took the said Spenceer and carried him about two miles to the house of Thomas Green of Kelso, and there kept him in custody until Monday morning. The heads of the said rioters then asked the said Spenceer whether he would chose to be tried at the house of Joseph Smith in said Durham, or at his the said Spenceer's own door. To which Spenceer replied that he was guilty of no crime, but if he must be tried he would choose to have his trial at his own door; the rioters thereupon carried the said Spenceer to his own door and proceeded to his trial before Seth Warner of Bennington; the said Remember Baker, Ethan Allen and Robert Cochrane who sat as Judges. That said rioters charged the said Spenceer with being a great friend to the government of New York and had acted as a magistrate of the county of Charlotte; of which respective charges his said Judges found him guilty, and passed sentence that he the said Spenceer's house should be burned to the ground, and that he should declare that he would not for the future act as a justice of the peace for the said County of Charlotte. Spenceer thereupon urged that his wife and children would be ruined, and his store of dry goods and all his property wholly destroyed if his house was burned. Warner then declared that Spenceer's house should not be wholly destroyed, that only the roof should be taken off and put on again, provided Spenceer would declare that it was put on under the New Hampshire title and pur-

chase, a right under the charter from the last mentioned government. These several conditions Spencer was obliged to comply with, upon which the rioters dismissed him. That a party of the said rioters came to deponent's house on the night of Saturday the 20th instant as the deponent is informed and broke open the doors and sacked the house for the deponent which they did not find, as he was gone to Crown Point to take Stephen Weakly upon writs issued against him, at the suit of Samuel Green and one Sprague. That upon the deponent's return home with the said Weakly in custody, another party of the said rioters took the deponent obliged him to discharge the said Weakly, and one Smith and others of the said rioters the next day declared they would pull down Green's house, and give him the Beach-seal (meaning they would flog him unless he consented thereto) which he accordingly did. They then obliged this deponent to give the said Weakly six shillings current money of New York, for taking him the said Weakly into custody, and declaring for the debts due from him, the said Weakly to the said Green and Sprague as aforesaid, and afterwards made this deponent promise, that he would never serve as an officer of justice or constable to execute any precept under the province of New York, and then gave him a certificate in the words and figures following to wit :

"PITTSFORD, Nov. 24th, 1773.

These are to satisfy all the Green Mountain Boys that Charles Button has had his trial at Stephen Mead's, and this is his discharge from us.

PELEG SUNDERLING,
BENJAMIN COOLEY."

Which certificate they declared would be a sufficient permit or pass among the New Hampshire claimants or Green Mountain Boys and further the deponent saith not.

CHARLES BUTTON."

Sworn before me this 30th day of Nov., 1773.

NATH'L STONE."

One Jacob Marsh, a resident of Sœinborough, who held the commission of Justice of the Peace under the government of New York, and had rendered himself particularly obnoxious to the New Hampshire settlers on account of his agency in some ejectment suits, on returning from Albany to his residence was arrested at Arlington by order of Seth Warner and Remember Bunker, and brought before a tribunal, consisting of Samuel Tubbs, Nathaniel Spencer and Philip Perry. The prisoner was charged with having purchased lands under a title derived from the government of New York, and discouraging settlers from settling in the province under titles derived from New Hampshire, and further of having accepted a commission of Justice of the Peace in the county of Charlotte, and having qualified and acted as a justice of the peace in pursuance thereof.

The case having been heard, the court returned a verdict to the following effect: "That the prisoner was not to encourage any settlements by persons settling under titles derived from the government of New York, but to discourage such settlements, not to discourage any persons settling under titles derived from grants made by the government of New Hampshire, and not to act as a justice of the peace, by virtue of a commission under the government of New York, upon pain of having his house burned and reduced to ashes, and his person punished at their pleasure."

The prisoner was then discharged and furnished with the following certificate:

ARLINGTON, Nov. 25, 1773.

This may certify that Jacob Marsh hath been examined and had a fair trial, so that our mob shall not meddle further with him as long as he behaves.

Teste,
SETH WARNER.

SAMUEL TUBBS,
NATHANIEL SPENCER,
PHILIP PERRY.*

This same Jacob Marsh in a deposition dated December, 1773, stated that "when he arrived at his own house he found that the same mob or company had been to his house in his absence and taken off the roof of the house and that he the deponent was informed and verily believes that only the interposition of some of his friends prevented them from burning the roof of the house after it was taken off; that they destroyed several bushels of corn, split a number of boards and did him some other damages. That he the deponent has been informed that John Smith and Peleg Sunderland (both of Socialborough) were the captains or leaders of the mob who had been at his house, and Benjamin Cooley and one Sylvanus Brown their lieutenants or next in command and mischief and that the company there with them amounted to forty or fifty armed men. And the deponent further saith that he verily believes that if he should act in his office as justice of the peace in the county of Charlotte his effects and property would be destroyed and that his life would be in danger."*

It would appear that the Green Mountain Boys in their dealings with the Yorkers—as they were called—were governed by a code of laws enacted by their own conventions, were careful to have all these faithfully executed, and were ready to mete out to any offending Yorker such punishment as they considered due to the quality of his crime. One of these penalties occasionally, though not often, inflicted was the application of the *beach seal*,† so termed in allusion to the great seal of New Hampshire, affixed to the grants made by the governor of that province, of which the beach rod well laid on the naked backs of the Yorkers and their adherents, was humorously considered a confirmation.‡

There is one well authenticated instance of the infliction of

* Doc. Hist. of N. Y., Vol. IV., p. 804.

† Allen defines this to be "the chastisement of the New York claimants with the twigs of the wilderness, the growth of the land they coveted."

‡ Shad, State Papers, p. 36.

this mode of punishment within the limits of Pittsford. It appears that a New York surveyor with several assistants was sent into the north part of Socialborough to run out and locate some land in that section of the township. Intelligence of their appearance and object rapidly spread and in a few hours Col. Cooley at the head of a party of the Green Mountain Boys was in rapid pursuit. They were overtaken and arrested in the swamp a little north of the present residence of Ira Hitchcock, on land then owned by Stephen Jenner, and taken before three men who acted as judges and after going through the forms of a trial the verdict was to the effect "that the head surveyor shold have the application of the beach seal and that his assistants shold be discharged on condition that they pledge themselves to offend no more." The surveyor was accordingly tied to a tree, and the bench wifte applied to his naked back, or—as the Colonel was accustomed to phrase it—was given a "sound drubbing." The culprit was then warned that if he repented the offence the punishment would be death.*

The last instance of the infliction of this punishment—so far as we can learn—was on the person of Benjamin Hough a noted New York partisan who resided in the south part of Socialborough. Hough necected a commission of justice under the New York government, and took a very active part in instituting suits of ejectment aginst the New Hampshire claimants. He was formally served with a copy of the resolution of the Manchester convention by which it was declared that "whoever should in the then unsettled state of affairs presume to take a commission of justice of the peace from the New York government should be deemed an enemy to their county and the common cause." To this he paid no attention but continued his obnoxious career till he was seized by a body of his neigh-

* We have searched all the records of that period, to which we have had access, to find some account of this transaction, but without success. It is here published, on the authority of those who have frequently heard Col. Cooley give an account of it, and no one acquainted with him would doubt his veracity.

bors among whom were Ebenezer Lyman, Benjamin Cooley and Stephen Mead, and conveyed to Sunderland and there tried for his offences by a court consisting of Ethan Allen, Seth Warner, Robert Cochran, Peleg Sunderland, James Mead, Gideon Warren and Stephen Sawyer. He was found guilty and sentenced "to be tied to a tree, and receive two hundred lashes on the naked back, and as soon as he should be able, should depart from the New Hampshire grants, and not return again, till his majesty's pleasure should be known in the premises, on pain of receiving five hundred lashes."

This sentence was immediately put into execution and then, as a protection against further punishment, he was furnished with the following certificate :

"SUNDERLAND, January 30, 1775. This may certify to the inhabitants of the New Hampshire grants that Benjamin Hough hath this day received the full punishment for his crimes committed heretofore against this country and our inhabitants are ordered to give him the said Hough free and unmolested passport towards the city of New York, or to the westward of our grants, he behoving us becometh.

Given under our hands the day and date aforesaid.

ETHAN ALLEN,
SETH WARNER."

Hough departed the next day for New York, where he made an affidavit before Chief-Judge Horsmanden, giving a minute account of the cruel and abusive manner in which he had been treated ; and he petitioned the council for protection against the rioters.*

While this affair was under consideration intelligence was received of an alarming insurrection against the government of New York, on the east side of the Green Mountains in the county of Cumberland, which resulted in the breaking up of

* See Doc. Hist. N. Y., Vol. IV., p. 897.

the session of the county court and the arrest and imprisonment of the sheriff and judges.

The British ministry had for some time been maturing a plan for obtaining a revenue from the American colonies. In pursuance of that plan numerous acts of parliament were passed, so oppressive in their nature as to alienate the affections of the colonists from the government of Great Britain. In September, 1774, a congress of delegates from twelve of the colonies assembled at Philadelphia, and among other acts "resolved to suspend all commercial intercourse with the mother country, until the obnoxious acts of parliament should be repealed." This resolution, with other measures of resistance, was embodied in the form of an agreement, and subscribed by all the members present, and recommended for adoption by all the colonies.

One of the articles of agreement was that they "would have no trade, commerce, dealings or intercourse whatever with any colony or province, in North America, who should not accede to, or should violate the association, but would hold them unworthy the rights of freemen and as inimical to the liberties of their country."

These measures, recommended by Congress, were approved and adopted by all the colonies except New York. The majority of the people of Cumberland county, approving of the action of Congress, very naturally felt that they would be justified in renouncing allegiance to a government which they had long disliked, and which had now violated the decrees of Congress, and had, thereby, according to the language of that Congress, become "unworthy the rights of freemen."

In the meantime the excitement, growing out of the arbitrary demands of the British ministry, intensified by the menacing attitude of the King's troops in Boston, became so furious as to disarrange the machinery of all the colonial governments. The courts of justice which had been held under the royal

authority, were either suspended or broken up, and a general stagnation pervaded all departments of human industry. A term of court for Cumberland county was appointed to be held at Westminster, on the 14th of March, and as it was known that the members of the court were advocates of the King's measures, and opposed to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, the people felt it their duty to resist their authority and prevent the holding of such an obnoxious court, and hence the outbreak to which allusion has been made.*

Information of this Westminster tragedy was communicated to the New York Assembly, by Lieut.-Gov. Colden, together with the papers relating to the Tongh affair, and that body was urged to take effectual measures for protecting His Majesty's suffering and obedient subjects, and for vindicating the honor and dignity of the government. After an animated debate the Assembly resolved "that this house will make provisions for granting to his majesty the sum of one thousand pounds to be applied in enabling and assisting the inhabitants of the county of Cumberland to reinstate and maintain the due administration of justice and for the suppression of riots in said county."

This resolution was followed by another offering a reward, in addition to one that had already been offered, for apprehending and confining in any jail in the colony certain prominent "rioters." Here terminated the efforts of the colonial government of New York to exercise jurisdiction over the people of the New Hampshire Grants, as the commencement of the revolutionary struggle, on the 19th of April following, rendered all further efforts useless.

Allusion has been made to certain conventions which were held at different times during the period we have been contemplating. These had their origin in a common necessity. The inhabitants of the several townships chartered by New Hamp-

* For a full account of this transaction see "History of Eastern Vermont."

shire, as soon as they became sufficiently numerous, organized themselves into municipal communities and adopted such rules and regulations as were essential for their local government; and as their land titles began to be called in question, town committees were chosen, whose duty it was to attend to matters of public interest, and especially to the defence of their property against the New York claimants.

The committees of the several towns occasionally met in general convention to consult upon matters of common interest and to adopt some general and uniform measures for their protection. As few records of these conventions have been preserved we know little of their proceedings; it is certain, however, that their decrees were regarded and obeyed as laws. At first the execution of these laws appears to have been left to individuals or local communities, but as the powers with which they had to contend became more formidable, a military organization—wider in scope—was resorted to. This consisted of several companies of infantry properly equipped and officered, which was held in readiness to repel invasion or to assist in executing the laws of the conventions. The members of this military corps assumed the name of Green Mountain Boys, in derision or defiance of a threat said to have been made by Gov. Tryon, that he would drive the rebellious settlers into the Green Mountains. This name soon became an honorable appellation, and is associated with some of the most brilliant military achievements in the early history of the country.

Whatever expense was incurred in executing the decrees of the conventions appears to have been apportioned among the towns represented therein. Thus in a convention held at Manchester on the 21st of October, 1772, Jehiel Hulwley and James Breckenridge were appointed agents to repair to London and "solicit their petition" to His Majesty for a confirmation of their claims under the grants from New Hampshire.* That the

* Doc. Hist. N. Y., Vol. IV., p. 802.

expense of this mission was apportioned among the towns represented will appear from the following extract from the journal of the General Assembly of Vermont, in October, 1786:

"A petition signed by Gershom Beach, setting forth that he gave his note in November, 1772, for £75 New York money, being the quota of money for the towns of Rutland, Pittsford and Clarendon, to defray the expense of Messrs. Hawley and Breckenridge to England to obtain a confirmation of the New Hampshire grants, and that the town of Rutland have not paid their quota of said money, and that he is called upon to pay said note; and praying that he may be authorized by law to collect said money to pay the aforesaid debt; was read and referred to a committee of three to take the same under consideration, state facts and make a report. Members chosen Mr. J. Smith, Mr. Cosseen and Mr. Allen."

The early settlers of Pittsford, having a common interest in establishing and maintaining their title to the soil, acted with a good degree of unanimity, in all their efforts to resist the establishment of any claim under the New York patent of Socialborough. But there were a few non-resident Proprietors under the New Hampshire grant, who were quite willing to relinquish their claim, on condition that they could have secured to them a tract of land of equal value in some other part of the royal domain, as will appear from the following petition:

To the Honourable Cadwallader Colden Esquier his Majesty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New York, and the Territories depending thereon in America.

The humble Petition of Samuel Ashley of Winchester in the Province of New Hampshire, Esquire, and his Associates, Sheweth,

That your Petitioners formerly obtained from the Government of New Hampshire a Grant of a Township called Shrewsbury, and part of the Township of Pittsford, to the

Westward of Connecticut River, and that a controversy arising between that Province and New York respecting their Boundary, it was finally determined in Favour of the latter by a Royal Decree of his Majesty in Privy Council dated the Twentieth Day of July, one Thousand seven Hundred and sixty-four.

That altho' your Petitioners afterwards applied to Sir Henry Moore, Baronet, formerly Governor of this Province in Council for a confirmation of the said Township of Shrewsbury, and part of the Township of Pittsford, and altho' they at first obtained a Resolution in their Favour, yet those lands were afterwards granted to others.

That your Petitioners in the Month of April, One Thousand seven Hundred and Seventy-two, applied to his Excellency, Governor Tryon for Lands in compensation for their New Hampshire Claims, situate about fifteen miles to the Eastward of Lake Champlain in the County of Charlotte; and his Majesty's Council conceiving it highly equitable that a reasonable Recompence should be made to your Petitioners for their Losses, were pleased to advise that a Grant should be passed under the Great Seal of this Province to your Petitioners agreeable to the Prayer of their Petition.

That your Petitioners have since at a very great Expence procured a Survey and Return to be made of the said Compensatory Lands, which is now in the hands of the Surveyor General.

That such advice was given by his Majesty's said Council in Favour of your Petitioners since the last Instructions to his Excellency Governor Tryon on the subject of the Lands formerly claimed by New Hampshire was communicated to his said Excellency, and that since that Period other Grants have passed the seal in his said Excellency's Administration for Lands lying within the District formerly claimed by New Hampshire.

That tho' the Lands so advised to be granted to and sur-

veyed and returned for your Petitioners do lay within the said District, yet no part thereof was ever Patented either under New Hampshire or the French Government of Canada, but always remained as it now does, vacant and vested in the Crown.

That your Petitioners humbly conceive it would be a very great Hardship, if in addition to the Misfortunes they have already sustained in loosing the Lands Patented to them by New Hampshire, they should now be doubly distressed by being disappointed in a Compensation, which his present Excellency Governor Tryon, and his Majesty's Council thought so equitable, and this the more especially as in a Dependance on the Stability and good faith of the Acts of this Government in their Favour, your Petitioners have actually expended and disbursed large Sums of Money in Discovering, Surveying and laying out the said Lands in a very remote Part of the Province.

That your Petitioners humbly hope that their Hard Case will be conceived to be within the equity of his Majesty's Instructions for granting such Lands as are already advised to be granted to and actually surveyed for his Majesty's subjects on the Terms hitherto usual.

That since Granting the said last mentioned Petition several of your Petitioners associates therein named are either dead or removed out of this Province (to wit) Simon Stevens, John Levine and Samuel Stevens.

Your Petitioners do therefore most humbly pray that your Honour will be pleased to order Letters Patent to be passed the Great Seal for Granting to your Petitioners the Lands so advised to be granted to and surveyed for them, and laid down on the Map annexed to Colonel Josiah Willard, and John Wigrain's Petition, under the Quit Rents and conditions hitherto usual; That the same may be erected into a Township by the name of with the usual Privileges, and that instead

of the names of the before mentioned Persons who are so dead or removed the following may be inserted in such Letters Patent, (to wit) Samuel Roberts, William Crossley, & John Ryan.

And your Petitioners shall pray &c.

SAMUEL ASHLEY

For himself and his
Associates.

Upon the back of this petition was the following endorsement:

"1772, May 2d, referred to a committee.

1774, May 6th, read in committee, and referred to his majesty's power to counsel, being restrained by the King's instructions."

Shrewsbury was first granted by the Governor of New Hampshire to Samuel Ashley and his associates. The most of the same territory was afterwards covered by the New York patents of Newry and Dnham. Mr. Ashley's name is not found among the original grantees of Pittsford, so that whatever interest he had in this township, must have been obtained by subsequent purchase. It is quite likely, however, that some of Ashley's associates were among the original grantees of Pittsford, but we have no means of knowing how many, nor who among them became Proprietors by purchase.

CHAPTER IV.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

Capture of Ticonderoga and Crown Point; Expedition to Canada; Convention of the New Hampshire Grants; Battle of Hubbardton; Pittsford Company Organized; Fort Mott; Pittsford men taken prisoners.

The disturbances growing out of the conflicting claims to the New Hampshire Grants, in which the inhabitants of Pittsford had been compelled to take part, subsided somewhat for the time being, in consequence of public attention being directed to the more exciting subject of a war with England. However much of personal interest the early settlers of these grants had in an equitable adjustment of the long enduring land-title controversy, they were willing to postpone further proceedings in relation to it, in order that they might the better co-operate with their countrymen, in resisting the unjust claims of the British government. And when, on the 19th of April, 1775, the impending war was opened by the conflict at Lexington, when the last flickering hope of a peaceful solution of the difficulties with England was extinguished, and the colonies were hastily preparing for the struggle, every nerve being strained to its utmost tension—the people of these grants being in full sympathy with the New England colonies from which they had emigrated, espoused most heartily the common cause and made the needful preparations for aiding in its defence.

It had long been foreseen by the colonies, that in the event of a war with the mother country, it would be very essential for them to possess the important fortresses of Ticonderoga and

Crown Point. Accordingly on receiving the first intelligence of the battle of Lexington, a number of men in Connecticut procured the necessary funds and set on foot an expedition for the capture of these military posts. On arriving at Bennington they were joined by Col. Ethan Allen who eagerly enlisted in the enterprise and together they proceeded to Castleton, where a council of the committee of war was held to decide upon future operations. It was thought best to send Capt. Noah Phelps, of Simsbury, Conn., to Ticonderoga to examine into its situation and condition and make report to his associates. He passed over the lake in a boat, in the rustic garb of a farmer, and put up at a house near the fort for the night, where several of the officers were collected for a supper party. He listened to their conversation respecting the commotions in the colonies, and the defenceless condition of the post, without taking any apparent interest in what they said.

In the morning he gained admission into the fort for the purpose of being shaved, and having learned the number of men in the garrison and ascertained that their ammunition was damaged, he engaged the boatman to take him across the lake, and returned to Castleton where he reported what he had seen and heard. Allen immediately dispatched Maj. Beach as a messenger to collect men to meet his party at a place since known as Hand's Point, in the town of Shoreham. Beach went on foot to Rutland, Pittsford, Neshobe, (now Brandon,) Middlebury, Whiting and Shoreham, making a circuit of sixty miles in twenty-four hours.*

In passing through Pittsford he called at the residence of Capt. Benjamin Cooley, to whom he delivered the message of Col. Allen. Capt. Cooley at once left his field, seized his gun, and taking with him Isaac Buck, Jr., John Deming, Hopkins Rowley, and Ephraim Stevens, proceeded to the appointed

* Hist. of Shoreham.

place of rendezvous. Allen and his men took the old Crown Point road* in Sudbury, and came to Lake Champlain, at a place since called Hand's Cove, where the men lay concealed from the view of the enemy in a ravine, and where they were joined by the recruits raised by Maj. Beach, among whom were Capt. Cooley and his Pittsford boys. Allen finding here no adequate means of conveying his men across the lake, sent messengers to Bridport and Addison to procure boats. They reached Bridport in the night, and made their object known to a Mr. Stone, in whose chamber a couple of young men were sleeping. He awakened them, when they arose and having received instructions proceeded to the fort at Crown Point and persuaded a negro who had charge of the boats belonging to the garrison to row them as far as Shoreham, where they pretended there was to be a squirrel hunt the next day,—promising him as a compensation a jug of rum. The boats did not arrive at the rendezvous until towards morning of the next day. There were two hundred and seventy men in all, two hundred and thirty of whom were Green Mountains Boys, all eager to embark and share in the perils and honors of that daring enterprise. The boats, however, were insufficient to carry all. Only eighty-three of the two hundred and seventy passed over, leaving one hundred and eighty-seven behind. Those remaining expected to be sent for immediately after the landing of the first party, but as they had to row nearly two miles before they reached the shore on the west side of the lake a little north of Willow Point, it began to be light, and Allen therefore determined not to await the arrival of the rest of the men from the other side, but to push on immediately to the attack. They set forward under the guidance of a young man named Benman, about eighteen years old who had spent much of his time at the fort, and was well acquainted with all the passages and buildings, including the quarters of the officers and soldiers.

*The pilot led the company through the wilderness by imitating the notes of the cuckoo.

Allen and Arnold* followed by their men proceeded on through a covered passage into the fort, under the direction of Beman. The sentinel, unaware of their approach had not given the alarm, but at sight of the enemy he instinctively snapped his gun at Allen, who parried the weapon with his sword, and struck a blow at the soldier's head which inflicted a wound that would probably have killed him, if the force of the blow had not been abated by collision with a comb which was in the soldier's hair. Allen pushed on to the apartment occupied by Capt. De La Place who was yet in bed, and demanded the immediate surrender of the fort in the name of powers, for one of which the British commander had little respect however much he might have had for the other.

"With such celerity had the men under Allen entered and paraded themselves in the open area within the fort, while the soldiers were yet sleeping in their barracks, that aroused thus suddenly from their slumbers, no opportunity was offered them to organize, and resistance in such circumstances being impracticable was not for a moment to be thought of. In a few minutes the officers and men were paraded on the square embraced within the walls and surrendered themselves, forty-four in number, to the hero of the Green Mountains."†

In a short time the men who had been left on the opposite side of the lake, under Col. Warner, went over and joined their comrades in celebrating a triumph achieved without the sacrifice of a single life. On the same day Warner was sent with a detachment of men to take Crown Point, which being garrisoned by a sergeant and twelve men only, was surrendered without resistance. Amos Callendar was also sent with a small party of men to take the fort at the head of Lake George which was easily accomplished.

Thus, on the 10th day of May, 1775, was achieved by the

* Arnold had joined Allen at Castleton.

† History of Shoreham.

colonies the first important conquest of the Revolutionary war, a conquest in which the citizens of Pittsford felt a deep interest and, in the honors of which, they are entitled to an humble share, inasmuch as Capt. Cooley and his recruits were among the first to cross the lake, to enter the covered passage and to parade upon the square within the fort. A few days afterwards Allen and Arnold formed a plan to take the King's sloop that lay in the harbor of St. Johns, and to attack the garrison. The first part of the plan was easily accomplished, but their attack upon the garrison was repulsed, and the assailants were obliged to retire. The capture of the King's sloop which took place on the 17th of May, gave the captors the complete command of the lake, and thereby, for a time, protected the settlers upon the New Hampshire grants against the incursions of the enemy from the north. The colony of Connecticut, by the request of Continental Congress, and also of the Congress of New York, sent a regiment of one thousand men to garrison and maintain the posts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and on its arrival there, early in June, Col. Allen delivered up his authority to Col. Benjamin Hinman, the commander of the Connecticut forces, when the men from the New Hampshire grants who had been collected for a brief period, and a temporary purpose, were discharged and permitted to return to their homes.

At the time of this, the first call upon Pittsford for troops to serve in the war of the Revolution, there were within the limits of the township, thirty-eight families, and, including the children, about one hundred and ninety-five individuals, who were nearly all loyal to the cause of their country. But they shared the ill feeling subsisting between the people of the New Hampshire Grants and the authorities of New York, to which province they nominally belonged, and were unwilling to enter the military service unless they could do this independently of the government they so much detested. But the

Green Mountain Boys having established a reputation for patriotism and bravery, were urged to enter the field, and arrangements were made by which they could do this, as an independent corps, and under officers of their own selection. They were organized under the direction of Gen. Schuyler who had been appointed a Major General and assigned to the command of the northern frontier. The General's head-quarters for a time were at Ticonderoga.

The officers of the Vermont battalion chosen at a convention of town committees held at Dorset, were as follows:

Seth Warner, Lieut.-Colonel.

Samuel Safford, Major.

Captains—Wait Hopkins, Oliver Potter, John Grant, William Fitch, Gideon Brownson, Micah Vail, Heman Allen.

First Lieutenants—John Fassett, Ebenezer Allen, Barnabas Barnum, Tille Blakely, Ira Allen, Gideon Warren, David Galusha.

Second Lieutenants—John Nobles, James Claghorn, John Chipman, Nathan Smith, Jesse Sawyer, Joshua Stanton, Philo Hard.

Early in June, Col. Allen urged upon the Continental Congress the policy of an immediate invasion of Canada, and after about three months delay, an expedition was fitted out for this purpose. But Gen. Schuyler's health not permitting him to continue in active command on the northern frontier, the American forces were led by Gen. Richard Montgomery, who, on the 17th of September, laid siege to St. Johns, a fortified post near the outlet of Lake Champlain. He was soon joined by the Green Mountain Boys under the command of Col. Warner. The Colonel, with a portion of his men, was sent to the St. Lawrence, in the vicinity of Montreal, to watch the movements of the enemy. Montgomery pushed the siege of St. Johns, which was defended by six or seven hundred men, who made a brave and protracted resistance in the hope of

being soon relieved by Gen. Carlton, the Governor of Canada. Carlton was exerting himself to the utmost for their relief, and collecting about eight hundred men, consisting of the militia of Montreal, some Canadians, a few regulars, and some Indians, he embarked them from Montreal to cross the St. Lawrence and land at Longueil. Their movements were watched from the opposite shore by Col. Warner, who with about three hundred Green Mountain Boys and some troops from New York, prepared for their approach. As they came near the south shore, Warner and his men opened upon them a well directed and incessant fire of musketry and grape-shot, which threw them into great confusion, and they retired in disorder and gave up the attempt. This decided the fate of St. Johns, for the commander of that post, on hearing of the defeat of Carlton, well understood that he could receive no relief, and as he had little prospect of being able to defend the place much longer, he decided to surrender the garrison prisoners of war, and on the third day of November they marched out of the works and laid down their arms. Carlton, having been repulsed, retired to Montreal, and Warner, to confine him there, proceeded to erect a battery at the mouth of the Sorel, which should command the passage of the St. Lawrence; but Carlton escaped and marched for Quebec only the day preceding the arrival of Montgomery, who took possession of Montreal without opposition. Warner's regiment thus acted an important part in the reduction of St. Johns and Montreal, but having served as volunteers and being too miserably clothed to endure a winter campaign in that northern latitude, they were honorably discharged on the 20th of November and returned to their homes. Leaving a small garrison at Montreal, Montgomery hastened to Quebec to join Arnold who had reached that city by a march through the wilderness, which was memorably bold in conception and daring in execution. The Generals made a simultaneous assault upon the fortifications at different points

which, however, signally failed, and the troops, weakened by disaster, were compelled to retire in discouragement and gloom.

Upon the death of Montgomery the command in Canada devolved upon Gen. Wooster, then at Montreal. This officer made every effort to reinforce Arnold in the vicinity of Quebec, and to garrison strongly all the military posts in his possession within the province. To do this he was obliged to call upon the colonies for a generous supply of men and provisions. On the 6th of January, 1776, he wrote to Col. Warner for aid, and after mentioning the misfortunes at Quebec he says: "I have not time to give you all the particulars, but this much will show you that in consequence of this defeat our present prospect in this country is rendered very dubious, and unless we can be quickly reinforced perhaps they may be fatal, not only to us who are stationed here, but also to the colonies in general; as in my opinion the safety of the colonies, especially the frontiers, very greatly depends upon keeping possession of this country. * * * * * You, sir, and the valiant Green Mountain corps are in our neighborhood. You all have arms, and I am confident ever stand ready to lend a helping hand to your brethren in distress, therefore let me beg of you to raise as many men as you can, and somehow get into this country, and stay with us till we can have relief from the colonies. You will see that proper officers are appointed under you, and both officers and privates will receive the same pay as the continental troops. It will be well for your men to set out as soon as they can be collected. * * * * * I can but hope that the people will make a push to get into this country, and I am confident I shall see you here with your men in a very short time."* Warner, in response to this request, issued a call for troops, and a regiment soon gathering around him he set out for Canada, and was among the first to join Arnold before Quebec.

* Early History of Vermont.

But the American soldiers were poorly prepared to endure a winter campaign in that northern climate. Not having comfortable bairnecks, clothing or provisions, their sufferings were severe, and to add to their dismay, the small-pox* broke out among them and was carrying destruction through the camp. Among those who fell victims to this loathsome disease, was Isaac Brock, Sen., of Pittsford. The state of affairs being such, Arnold could do little more than maintain the blockade of the river and cut off the supplies of the city. By the 5th of May his forces were so much reduced, and their provisions so nearly exhausted that a council of war was called, and, in view of their weakened condition, and the daily expected arrival from England, of large reinforcements for the city, it was decided to make a hasty retreat. Early the next morning the expected British troops arrived at Quebec, and about noon Carlton marched out of the city to give battle to the Americans, who, abandoning their artillery, stores, baggage, and every incumbrance, fled as fast as they could. Col. Warner's regiment covered the retreat, and by his prudence, vigilance and perseverance, he brought off many who would otherwise have fallen into the hands of the enemy. The retreat was continued from post to post, with the British army in close pursuit; and towards the last of June the Americans reached Ticonderoga, a few days after the main army had taken possession of that fortress. As the continentals held the command of the lake they did not apprehend any immediate molestation from the enemy, and Warner's regiment, raised for a temporary purpose, was discharged.

Hitherto the rank of Warner had been that of Lieutenant-Colonel, and his corps had been employed only for temporary purposes, but his services and those of his men were so highly appreciated that on the 5th of July, the day after the declara-

* This disease was given to the soldiers by a girl, who came into the American camp from the hospital in Quebec.

tion of independence, Congress resolved to organize in Vermont a regiment of regular troops for permanent service, and this regiment was to be under command of officers who had served in Canada. Seth Warner was appointed Colonel, and Samuel Safford, Lieutenant-Colonel.

No sooner had the Americans evacuated Canada than Gen. Carlton commenced the construction of vessels at St. Johns, with the design of securing the command of Lake Champlain. And such were his facilities that in a few months he had a naval force greatly superior to that of the Americans. Engagements between these hostile fleets, on the 11th and 13th of October, resulted in favor of the British, and Arnold, who had command of the American flotilla, destroyed his vessels, and with the most of his men retired to Ticonderoga. General Gates, who was then in command at that post, supposing that Carlton would attempt to follow up his success by an attack upon the garrison, called earnestly for reinforcements. The three regiments which had been organized on the west side of the Green Mountains turned out *en masse*, and were soon with Gates at Mount Independence. Carlton landed his forces at Crown Point, where he remained about two weeks, but finding the Americans strongly intrenched and prepared for an obstinate defence, he retired into Canada for the winter.

The militia which had been hastily called to the assistance of Gates were discharged early in November, and the campaign for the year 1776, in the northern department, was thus brought to a close.

One pretty well authenticated incident, however, is related as having taken place in the fall of this year, which may be here appropriately noticed. The circumstances as we find them narrated were as follows:

"It appears that John Fassett of Bennington and Jonathan Fassett of Pittsford had received commissions as Captains to raise two companies of Green Mountain Boys for the defence

of the frontier settlements. The militia company of Rutland was called together for the purpose of ascertaining if any of them would volunteer to join the company of Jonathan Fassett. It was agreed that the man who could procure the most volunteers should receive a commission as Lieutenant. Two persons offered themselves as candidates for that office; one was Thomas Lee, but the name of the second person is forgotten. The latter made an effort and succeeded in obtaining one volunteer. Lee tried and immediately reenlisted some fifteen or twenty, and was accordingly appointed Lieutenant.

There was at that time a small settlement on Onion River in the town of Jericho. Their remote and exposed situation caused considerable anxiety, and after consultation it was agreed that Lieut. Lee and his men should go and assist them in removing south, where they could be more conveniently protected. Accordingly, providing themselves with provisions sufficient for ten days, and with no change of clothing, Lee and his men left home for Jericho. Lee's Sergeants were Mott and Martin, (the former of whom afterwards settled in Brandon and became deacon of the Baptist church in that place,) his writer was Joshua Pratt of Rutland, then quite young, and among his men were Wait Wright, Benjamin Johnson and Nathan Pratt of Rutland. Among the settlers at Jericho was a certain politic Deacon Rood, who, on the arrival of Lee—fully appreciating the benefit of living at home, and being well protected by soldiers, as contrasted with the disadvantages of removal to a land of strangers, however amicable—slyly departed for Ticonderoga, and there obtained from General Gates as Continental Commander of the Northern Department, orders not only for Lee to remain where he was, but also for the Fassettts to come there with their companies. In obedience to this order Lee remained at Rood's settlement about five weeks, his men meanwhile managing as best they could, with only one suit of clothes apiece. On the arrival of the Fassettts,

Lee and his men obtained a furlough and returned to refresh themselves and recruit their wardrobes. With the Fassetts was Matthew Lyon, as Lieutenant, then of Arlington, afterwards of Fairhaven. The pleasures of life at Jericho—with nothing but interminable woods around them, and no society except what was found in unseasonable calls from bears, wolves, Indians and Tories—soon began to be realized in all their captivity, by the Fassetts, Lyon and company. Their inactivity and exposure were naturally dissatisfying, and they imparted their dissatisfaction to each other. Presently they resolved to leave the station, but this was a dangerous step. To desert his post would be, to the officer, public disgrace and the loss of his commission, and to the soldier it would be death. They finally arranged that the soldiers should appear to mutiny and compel the officers to leave; and packing up, off they started for home. Meanwhile, Lee and his men—their furlough was about to expire—had started from Rutland and arrived at Brandon on their return to Jericho, when news of the desertion reached them. Lee, sending on his men, immediately crossed over to Ticonderoga to inform Gen. Gates of the affair. Gates had already heard of it and sent a Major with a corps of riflemen to intercept the fugitives and bring them to Ti. At Middlebury the riflemen met Lee's men and a difficulty arose immediately. The Major's orders were to take the Fassetts and all their men. Lee's men replied through their Sergeants Mott and Martin, that they had done no wrong, and would not give up their arms, or surrender as prisoners, to any power on earth; they should encamp where they were, as they had intended, but if the riflemen would go on that night they would follow them the next morning, and to this the Major—seeing there was no other way without a fight—consented. The Fassetts, Lyon and their men were taken near New Haven and carried to Ti. Here their swords were taken from the officers, and all thrown into the guard-house. Lee obtained authority to release all he

knew to be innocent, and the rest were court-martialed. The fact having been elicited by the investigation the sentence liberated all the soldiers and not only deprived the officers of their commissions but rendered them ineligible to a reappointment in the continental service. The latter part of the sentence of the officers Gates took off, saying that if anybody was d--d fool enough to appoint such cowards they might. The next year Gen. St. Clair, ns commander of the Northern Department, reversed the sentence of the officers. This transaction excited general execration throughout the army, the officers were hung in effigy, etc. The Fussets never afterwards held any commission in the continental service, though Lyon was appointed Paymaster, and Lee received a commission as Captain for three years and recruited a company of which Martin was a Lieutenant."

As has already been intimated, the excitement produced by the Revolutionary war caused a temporary suspension of the controversy with the New York land claimants. And it was hoped that the new government, which took the place of the old, colonial government of New York, would be more favorably disposed towards the inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants, and recognize the justice of their claims. But it was soon found that the New York land jobbers had a controlling influence in the new government, and that no more could be hoped from this than from the old government. The convention of that State, by a unanimous vote, claimed all the quit rents formerly due to the King of Great Britain. It was obvious that for the Green Mountain people "to submit to the claims of New York, was to give up the whole of their property, and to reduce themselves to a state of dependence and beggary. To oppose her claims and power, would probably bring on not only a contest with New York, but with Congress also; and to continue without some form of government was impossible."

This was a difficult situation and gave rise to a variety of opinions. Some, preferring New Hampshire, advocated a return to that government; others were inclined to submit to New York; but the more courageous were for establishing an independent government.

To ascertain the prevailing opinion, and determine what measures should be adopted for the defence of the district against the common enemy, a convention was called to meet at Dorset, on Wednesday, the 24th of July, 1776. In response to this call thirty-two towns sent delegates to meet at the time and place appointed. Pittsford was represented in that convention by Jonathan Fassett, Jonathan Rowley and Aaron Parsons. The convention by an almost unanimous vote decided that they could not consort with New York or New Hampshire; but "to convince the public of their readiness to join in the common defence of the liberties of America they published and subscribed the following association, viz.:

"We the subscribers, inhabitants of the district of land commonly called and known by the name of the New Hampshire Grants, do voluntarily and solemnly engage under all the ties held sacred amongst mankind, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, to defend by arms the United American States against the hostile attempts of the British fleets and armies, until the present unhappy controversy between the two countries shall be settled."

Such associations had been entered into by members of public bodies in the several colonies, and it had been recommended that they be also subscribed by their constituents. Such an association had been adopted and recommended by the committee of safety of New York, to be subscribed by the people of that colony. The inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants would not subscribe the New York association, but they here adopted one of their own, and declared that

"any persons within the district who should subscribe and return any other association than the above to the committees of safety for either of the counties in the province of New York, should be deemed enemies to the common cause of the New Hampshire Grants."

The convention then adjourned to meet at the same place on Wednesday the 25th of September following.

The convention assembled agreeably to adjournment and was attended by fifty-six delegates representing thirty-three towns. Various measures preliminary to the formation of the territory into a separate State were adopted, and such action was taken as would enable them to furnish aid in the general struggle against the common enemy. The contest with New York in relation to their land titles was duly considered, and it was unanimously voted "that no directions or laws of that State should be accepted or obeyed." A covenant or compact was subscribed by all the members and recommended for signature by their constituents. This covenant—omitting the preamble—was as follows, viz.:

"We the subscribers, inhabitants of that district of land commonly called and known by the name of the New Hampshire Grants, being legally delegated and authorized to transact the public political affairs of the aforesaid district, for ourselves and constituents do solemnly covenant and engage that, for the time being, we will strictly and regularly adhere to the several resolves of this or a future convention, constituted on said district by the free voice of the friends to American liberties, which shall not be repugnant to the resolves of the honorable the Continental Congress, relative to the cause of America."

The town committees were directed "to see to it that the association be forthwith signed by every individual male inhabitant of each town from sixteen years old and upwards and that the association thus signed be returned to Dr. Jonas Fuy, clerk of the convention, before its next sitting."

At this convention "a committee of war, consisting of nine members, was appointed, who were authorized to issue warrants or commissions in the name of the convention to the several field officers of the militia, and were invested with the general superintendence of the military affairs of the district."

"They were directed on sufficient notice of the Continental Congress, or from the commander of the armies of the United States, or on any sudden emergency, to order the militia to march immediately to such part of the continent as might be required."

After the transaction of some other business of minor importance the convention adjourned "to meet at the Court House in Westminster on Wednesday the 30th of October then next."

When the convention reassembled the inhabitants of the territory were in a state of great excitement and alarm in consequence of the destruction of the American naval force on Lake Champlain, and the threatened attack of Carlton upon Ticonderoga. A large proportion of the people having gone to the defence of that fortress, the convention was very thinly attended, and but little business was transacted. After a brief session the convention adjourned to meet again at the same place on the third Wednesday of the ensuing January.

The convention assembled agreeably to adjournment on the 15th of January, 1777, and voted unanimously for a separate and independent State, to be known as New Connecticut, and a declaration to this effect was adopted and published.

The convention was then adjourned to meet at the meeting house in Windsor, on the first Wednesday of June then next.

The declaration was presented to Congress on the 8th of April, by a committee chosen for that purpose, together with a petition, praying that the district might be ranked among the free and independent American States, and delegates therefrom admitted to seats in the Continental Congress. All this had

been done in direct opposition to the government of New York, and the influence of that State in Congress prevented a favorable consideration of it.

The convention of the New Hampshire Grants assembled on Wednesday, the 4th day of June, and was very fully attended, fifty townships being represented by seventy-two delegates. In the three preceding conventions Pittsford does not appear to have been represented, but in the present convention the delegate from this town was Jonathan Fassett. In the course of the proceedings a committee was appointed to draft a constitution, and a resolution was passed recommending that each town elect and send representatives to the convention which was to meet at Windsor in the July following. A committee was appointed to wait on the commander at Ticonderoga and consult with him respecting the regulations and defence of the frontiers; and an act was passed appointing Wednesday, the 18th of June, as a day of public fasting and prayer, the first ever appointed in the State.

It has been stated that the New Hampshire Grants had been declared a separate and independent State by the name of New Connecticut, but it having come to the knowledge of this convention that there was already a township by this name on the Susquehanna river, it was unanimously resolved that the New Hampshire Grants should ever thereafter be known and called by the name of Vermont.

The convention adjourned to meet at the same place on Wednesday, the 2d of July following.

On the 2d of July the convention met at Windsor and the draft of a constitution was presented and read. While it was under consideration the news of the evacuation of Ticonderoga arrived which occasioned great alarm, as thereby the frontiers of the State were exposed to the ravages of the enemy. But the reading of the constitution, paragraph by paragraph, which was then in progress, was continued to the end. The convention then

appointed a "Council of Safety" to act during its recess, and adjourned. Neither the journal of this convention nor the list of its members has been preserved, and about all we know of its proceedings is gathered from the brief account given by Ira Allen in his history of Vermont.

In May, 1777, a party of Tories headed by one Benjamin Cole passed through this region on their way to Canada to join the British. Capt. James Bently with a few other individuals resolved to capture them. Their number increased, while they were hastening northward, to twenty-two. They learned by their scouts that the enemy were encamped for the night in a forest at Monkton. Waiting till the tories were all sound asleep, Bently rushed upon them with a terrific noise and made the whole party, thirteen in number, prisoners. The next day they marched them to Neshobe where a court was convened for their examination. This court consisted of Thomas Tuttle, Timothy Barker, Jonathan Rowley, Moses Olmstead and John Smith. After a patient investigation which was continued two days and a half, the prisoners were ordered to be delivered over to the garrison at Ticonderoga, and Capt. Bently and his men marched them directly to that fortress.

The following is a copy of the order compensating the court:

"Sir.

Please pay to Esq. Timothy Barker, Jonathan Rowley, Moses Olmstead, John Smith and Thomas Tuttle thirty shillings each for setting two days and a half to examine thirteen tories taken at Monkton in May, 1777, which amount to seven pounds and ten shillings.

ARLINGTON, 22d Jan. 1779.

THOMAS CHITTENDON.

To Ira Allen, Esq., Treasurer.

Received Jan. 22d, 1779, of Ira Allen seven pounds ten shillings.

THOMAS TUTTLE."

"A Pay Roll of a party of men under the command of James Bentley in taking 13 Tories in Monkton on their way to Canada viz. Benj. Cole and his party and for bringing them before the Committee at Neshobe and guarding them to Ticonderoga :

CAPT. JAMES BENTLEY,	JAMES BENTLEY, JR.,
WINCHIP HORT,	THOMAS BENTLEY,
JOHN BISHOP,	DANIEL FOOT,
RICHARD BARNUM,	ISRAEL EVERIST,
JEMIEL GREGORY,	SOLOMON STORY,
— ROAD,	NOAH STRONG,
PHILIP FOOT,	ELISHA WEBSTER,
" JR.,	JOSEPH BARKER,
WILLIE HOPKINS,	TIMOTHY BARKER,
SAMUEL BLODGETT,	JESSE TUTTLE,
SIDRONS BLODGETT,	ORIO (OR ORI) BUCK.

The pay of the above was £90. 9s. 0d.

Rec'd Arlington, Oct. 3d, 1778, of Ira Allen, Treasurer, £90. 9s. L. M., it being the contents of the within pay roll.

JAMES BENTLEY, Capt."

Military operations on a very extensive scale had been planned by the British Ministry, for the year 1777. The campaign was opened in the north, by the advance of General Burgoyne from Canada, with a well equipped army of ten thousand men, of whom a large number were savages, one corps renegade tories and one-half German hirelings. This formidable force was gradually approaching Ticonderoga which was occupied by about two thousand five hundred and forty continental troops commanded by Gen. St. Clair. This officer immediately called for reinforcements, that he might be able to check the advance of the enemy and save that military post. On the 5th of July, Col. Warner joined him with nine hundred militia hastily collected mostly from Vermont; but the garrison

thus reinforced could hardly expect to stand against the well appointed army of Gen. Burgoyne. On the morning of the 6th, before daylight, the Americans abandoned the fort, all the cannon, most of the provisions and military stores, which fell into the hands of the enemy, and retreated towards Castleton. Col. Warner with the rear guard, consisting of three regiments, was overtaken on the morning of the 7th, at Hubbardton, by a pursuing party of British troops commanded by Brigadier General Frazier, and a severe battle ensued, the result of which was for a considerable time doubtful; but the British, receiving reinforcements, renewed the attack with increased vigor, and the Americans being overpowered by numbers were routed at every point, a part fleeing south into Castleton, others escaping over the mountain into Pittsford.

In this engagement the Americans lost, in killed, wounded and prisoners, three hundred and twenty-four; the British loss,^{*} in killed and wounded, was estimated at one hundred and eighty-three.

The day on which Hubbardton battle occurred was one of great excitement in Pittsford. It was well known that Burgoyne, with a powerful army, was about to invest Ticonderoga, and that, with the fall of that fortress, Pittsford and other frontier towns would be exposed to the incursions, not only of the British, but of their allies, the Tories and Indians. And the lively discharge of musketry at Hubbardton, which was distinctly heard in Pittsford, told but too plainly that the first great obstacle to Burgoyne's progress had been overcome and that the conflict had been brought to the very borders of the township. Should the Americans be defeated in this engagement, the enemy might be expected to sweep through the town, spreading destruction and ruin. Every eye was turned towards Hubbardton, and the people were running hither and thither, eager to catch the earliest tidings from the scene of

* A part of these were Germans in the British service.

conflict. Thus the hours wore away in fearful suspense, till a few fugitives from the bloody field, rushing over the mountain, revealed the sad disaster which had befallen the American arms. Few of the inhabitants of Pittsford slept in their houses that night. Expecting every moment an attack by plundering parties from the British army, or by their more ferocious allies, the Indians, who were known to be hovering in the vicinity, they secreted or carried with them their most valuable personal effects, and betook themselves to the woods where they awaited in painful suspense the approach of morning. And then while the women and children, with a few of the more timid and feeble, fled southward, some to Clarendon, others to Shaftsbury or Bennington, and a few to Fort Edward on the Hudson; others, more courageous and well armed, went over the mountain into Hubbardton and assisted in gathering up and burying the remains of the dead upon the battle-ground.*

Many interesting incidents touching the flight of the inhabitants are related. As they could carry away only a few of their domestic utensils, many of these were secreted at some distance from their dwellings, which they supposed would be pillaged by the enemy. Mrs. Buck, (widow of Isaac,) in her haste, threw an iron kettle and some pewter dishes into the swale just east of her house, and with her children escaped to Clarendon. On returning, a few weeks after, these articles could not be found; but in 1838, after having lain there sixty-one years, they were found by Simeon Smith, in digging a ditch through that swale, and identified by Alfred Buck, then living.†

Some of the families returned to the towns from which they had emigrated. Capt. Benjamin Cooley placed his wife upon a horse, and having two children, he put one in each of two baskets‡ which were suspended one on either side of the animal, and

* Hendee's MS.

† Mr. Buck purchased this kettle of Mr. Smith, and it was kept in the Buck family some years as a memento of that olden time. Mr. Smith retained a pewter dish, which was accidentally melted on the stove some years afterwards.

‡ These baskets, called pioneer baskets, were about three feet long, twenty inches wide and fourteen inches deep, and had two holes on either side, beneath the rim, to receive straps by which they were suspended from the saddle.

in this way he accompanied them to Greenwich, his native town. There the family remained some months, but Mr. Cooley returned to Pittsford to assist his fellow-townspeople in defending their possessions. Before escaping, they hid their cooking utensils in the cove near the house, but these could never afterwards be found.

Stephen Jenner and family returned to Stevenstown, Mrs. Jenner and child on horseback, and Mr. Jenner accompanying them on foot; and there they remained till the close of the war. Edward Owen, with his wife and two daughters, after a journey of nearly two days, reached Fort Edward. Samuel Waters and family fled to Shaftsbury; Samuel Ellsworth and family to Arlington.* The families that remained in the town did not venture to sleep in their houses for several successive nights, as they were fearful of being attacked by the Indians and killed or carried into captivity.

The men from Pittsford who assisted in burying the dead after the battle of Hubbardton were somewhat successful in collecting the debris of the battle-field, as will appear from the following memorandum found in the archives of the State at Montpelier:

"Pittsford, August 11, 1777.

Memorandum of receipts given to the Inhabitants of Pittsford, and the number of Guns brought in by the persons whose names are here mentioned. Guns marked with the letters as follows:

	No. of Guns,	No. Bayonets.	Cartridge Boxes.	Number kept beside the foregoing turned over to the State.
Capt. Peleg Sunderland	8,	12	0	0
Lieut. Moses Olmstead	0,	9	4	3
Samuel Wiles	W,	4	2	0
Jonathan Rowley	R,	9	1	0
Jonathan Swett	S,	7	5	5
Asael Blanchard	B,	3	0	0
Ebenezer Drury	D,	6	5	0
Aaron Parsons	P,	3	8	0
Adonijah Brooks	B,	8	7	0
Total,	61	27	8	14 "

*Samuel Montague, some time before, had fled to Bennington.

The following is a copy of Mr. Olmstead's bill :
 "State of Vermont to Moses Olmstead Dr.

To nine Guns found on the ground after the battle
 was fought at Hubbardton in July, 1777, which Guns
 I delivered to Maj. Joseph Taylor for the use of the
 State after my trouble conveying them to Pittsford at
 three dollars per each Gun, \$27.00

The following entry is found upon the Treasurer's records :
 "June 15, 1778. There was paid to Moses Olmstead
 by order of the Governor for Guns delivered to Joseph
 Taylor for use of State, £8 2s.

The other persons who delivered guns to the State were
 paid in the same proportion.

After the alarm occasioned by the near approach of the
 enemy had subsided, the most of the male inhabitants of Pitts-
 ford who had fled from their homes, returned, and their first
 care was to prepare a place of refuge to which they might
 repair whenever threatened with an attack by the enemy. The
 place selected was the residence of William Cox, on the east
 bank of Otter Creek. This was surrounded by a high breast-
 work of hemlock logs set endwise in the ground, and on the
 west side this work was carried down the bank into the channel
 of the creek which supplied the inmates with an abundance
 of fresh water. In form the enclosure was nearly square,
 and contained about three-fourths of an acre of ground, in the
 center of which was the log dwelling which took the place of a
 block-house. This work was accomplished "by the combined
 voluntary efforts of the neighboring inhabitants" for their

*That the State did something towards strengthening this fort in 1778 will
 appear by the following :

"State of Vermont, Dr.
 To Jonathan Rowley of Pittsford for service done in the year 1778.
 To one day's work of his son and two yoke of oxen drawing timber for
 the fort at Pittsford £0-7s-0
 To one day's work of himself and canoe following a scout for Lieut.
 Holmes 0-5 -0

 0-12 -0"

The above bill has the following endorsement :
 "Treasurer's Office.
 Received this seventh of March 1781, the within account in full for Jonathan
 Rowley in State Note. JOHN MOTT."

mutual security against the sudden attacks of roaming parties of Indians and British, piloted by the detestable renegade Tories, familiar with every road, by-path, log house and ambush in the settlements." This was afterwards named Fort Mott, from Mr. John Mott who often acted as commander of those collected within it, and whose residence was near where Lorenzo Dyer now lives, within the limits of Neshobe.

From this period to the close of the war the inhabitants of Pittsford saw perilous times. The Indians, instigated by the British, were almost continually lurking in the vicinity, ready at any moment to take advantage of the defenceless condition of the inhabitants, to carry into execution their schemes of plunder and devastation. And this having in former years been their favorite hunting-ground, they were familiar with every part of it, and not unfrequently they were guided by a despicable set of Tories, who understood the exact location and condition of every family in the township. Late in September of this year the Indians seized two boys, Joseph and John Rowley, the former aged fifteen years and the latter eleven years, sons of Jonathan Rowley, and carried them prisoners to Canada. A few days later the same or another party of Indians captured two lads in Whipple Hollow, viz.: Gideon and Thomas Sheldon, fifteen and thirteen years of age respectively, sons of Gideon Sheldon. In this instance the boys were returning to the barn with an ox team loaded with grain; the Indians, approaching stealthily, made them prisoners and then proceeded to the house. As they entered the door Mrs. Sheldon, the mother of the two boys, in her fright sprang out of a back window. The Indians searched the house, took the only spare dress—a calico one—belonging to Mrs. Sheldon, and a web from the loom, partially woven, and retreated with their prisoners and booty. Mrs. Sheldon followed some little distance and entreated them to give up her sons but they refused.

The house of Felix Powell was attacked in the night. Mr. Powell was absent, but Mrs. Powell apprehending an attack

had fled into a thick cluster of bushes in the vicinity, and while there the house was plundered and burnt. In full view of the burning residence she was delivered of a child, before morning.

Intelligence of these outrages rapidly spread, and a company of soldiers was soon sent to protect the inhabitants and if possible to recover the captives. This force was under the command of Abraham Salisbury.

The following is the pay-roll of Capt. Salisbury's company on Otter Creek, raised in Clarendon by advice of the Committee of Safety, and principal inhabitants of the towns of Wallingford, Clarendon, Rutland and Pittsford, on being alarmed by the enemy coming to Pittsford, taking some prisoners and plundering some houses. Capt. Salisbury's company came to Pittsford Oct. 17, 1777, and went away the 25th of the same month:

<i>Capt.</i> A. Salisbry,	Benj. Foster,
" Thonmas Sawyer,	Oliver Arnold,
<i>Sergt.</i> Joseph Smith,	Jesse Place,
" Jedidiah Jackson,	John Sqnire,
" Jabez Weaver,	Amali Brooks,
" Zebidiah Green,	Peter Tarbox,
<i>Clerk;</i> Asuble Blanchard,	Nath'l Place,
Sylvanns Brown,	Abadiah Gill,
Noel Potter,	Williann Ronnds,
Ebenezer White,	Joseph Barker,
Samuel Waters,	Obediah Edwards,
Thos. Tuttle,	Jona. Eddy,
Jacob Patridge,	Silas Whitney,
Nehemiah Angell,	" " Jr.,
William Cox,	Benj. Stevens, Jr.,
Abel Spencer,	James Stevens,
Thos. Curtis,	Joseph Williamis,
Edward Owen,	Joel Foster,
Daniel Niles,	Peter Eddy,

Thos. Eddy,	Mark Jeney,
Levi Calvin,	Jonah Ives,
David Warner,	Newton Drury,
Azariah Brooks,	Ebenezer Cooley,
James Ronnds,	James Edwards,
Mathew Cox,	Daniel Stevens,
Noah Bush,	Abel Stevens,
Aaron Bush,	Samuel Williams,
Wallis Sutherland,	Joseph Jackson,
Nathmel Skelter,	Ezekiel Clark,
James Smith,	Elizur Allen.

This company afterwards received of the State as compensation for services on this occasion, £37—7s—11d.

The Sheldon boys were carried to Canada where Thomas, the younger, being a feeble child, died in captivity, but Gideon and the Rowley boys, after a few months confinement, were released and returned home.

The battle of Bennington on the 16th of August was a severe blow to the haughty Burgoyne, and gave him some idea of the spirit of the people with whom he had to contend; and the two battles of Stillwater, a few weeks later, so crippled his army that he was not only incapacitated for aggressive operations, but for defending his position; and on the 17th of October he was compelled to surrender to the American commander. On receiving intelligence of the fate of Burgoyne, Gen. Carlton ordered all the posts south of the province line to be abandoned. In conformity to this order, Ticonderoga was evacuated about the middle of November. The rear of the retreating garrison was overtaken and attacked by a company of rangers under the command of Capt. Ebenezer Allen with the result of a loss to the enemy of forty-nine men who were taken prisoners, as well as more than one hundred horses, twelve yoke of oxen, four cows and three boats.

This affair terminated military operations in the northern

department for the year 1777, and Pittsford, with other frontier towns, being relieved from the presence of the enemy, many of the inhabitants thereof who had been driven from their homes, returned and gathered their crops of hay and grain, though the most of these were in a damaged condition.

It is very much to be regretted that the records of the town through this eventful period should have been destroyed, for if existing they would doubtless reveal to us, in clearer light than can now possibly be done, the labors, sacrifices and nameless trials of the early inhabitants, not only in defence of their homes, but in aid of the common cause.

The only record in existence relating to military affairs up to the period which this history has now reached is found in the proceedings of a Proprietor's meeting held at the house of John Barnes, June 3, 1776. The following is a copy :

"Voted that every poll in town pay one dollar for a stock of powder to be left in town.

Voted that the committee of safety take care to see that the above vote is carried into execution."

Of the men who composed this Committee of Safety we have no knowledge, but that there were such committees chosen in the several towns from year to year, there can be no doubt, as allusion is frequently made to them in the records of the proceeding of the Council of Safety, Board of War, and Public Conventions. The duties of these town committees are set forth in part by the following circular:

"In Council of Safety, Nov. 16, 1777.

Resolved, That it be recommended, and it is hereby recommended, to the Committee of Safety, of each town in this State, to take immediately under their examination, all persons who have been to the enemy, or such as are deemed enemies to their country; each Committee taking under their examination the persons belonging to their own town,—and in such town

where no committee is appointed to call the assistance of the neighboring committee. No person to be tried short of the number of seven or more committeemen, selected from three different committees. In case any such person or persons cannot satisfy the inhabitants of the town to which they belong, and obtain their liberty to remain at home under proper restrictions, to send such persons, forthwith, to this Council, with their crimes, in writing, and evidences to support the charges against them.

The Council further recommend to the respectable Committees of Safety, in this State, to be ever mindful of the worthy and laudable example set us by his Excellency General Washington, and the good people, inhabitants of New Jersey; always bearing in mind to consider the weak capacities of many who have been affrightened into a submission to General Burgoyne, &c.—after which, seeing their error, confess their fault, and are willing to defend their country's cause, at the risk of life and fortune.

By order of Council,

THOMAS CHITTENDEN, *President.*

P. S. No person whatever, included in articles of capitulation, are to be considered.

JOSEPH FAY, *Sec'y.*

In the journal of this Council we find the following, relating to three of the Pittsford men:

"In Council, Bennington, Feb. 17, 1778.

To Capt. Joseph Bowker—Sir:

Wherens, complaint is made to this Council by Deacon John Burnap, that Moses Olmsted, Jabez Olmsted and —— Owen, of Pittsford, did in December last, take from him about twelve hundred weight of iron which is detained from him; he therefore desires of this Council, that they would

direct him, in what manner he may obtain his property again.

Therefore, this Conneil recommend to call together the members of the several committees in Rntland and the neighbouring towns, to the number of five, to judge and determine the case, depending between the above parties, according to jnjustice and equity.

By order of Conneil,

THOMAS CHITTENDEN, *President.*"

The noble efforts made by the inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants in favor of American liberty, as exhibited in the last campaign, and the applanse which such efforts had elicited from the people of other States, were not unnoticed by the ruling classes of New York. And it is not unnatural that they should suppose, that a people possessed of such courage and energy would not be very likely to yield to demands involving submission to that State. This feeling was fully exhibited in the General Assembly of New York in February. A series of resolntions was adopted, proposing to the inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants certain terms of accommodation in reference to their land titles, which terms were offered (it was so declared) as an inducement to them to submit quietly to the jurisdiction of that State. These resolntions were made known to the inhabitants by proclamation of the Governor February 23d, 1778; and at first view they have the appearance of candor and liberty; but in reality they contained proposals for confirming the grants, on the payment of certain specified fees, of a very small part only of the lands that were in controversy. They applied only to such lands as were in actual possession of claimants under New Hampshire at the time these lands were granted by New York. Now the grants made by New York were at a very early date, and a very large majority of the inhabitants settled on these lands, after grants of them had been made by New York, and obtained their titles

from the government of New Hampshire. Again there were others who honestly purchased lands and held them under titles derived from New Hampshire, but who never occupied them. To these two classes no security was offered by the proposals of the New York government, but the moment the jurisdiction of that State should be recognized they would be completely at the mercy of the New York land speculators. This was well understood by the claimants under New Hampshire, and served only to strengthen their prejudices against the government of New York. The original resolutions not having the intended effect, the New York Assembly thought it expedient to pass explanatory resolutions, in which they say "their former resolves had been misrepresented by some, and misunderstood by others," and they proposed to submit the case of each claimant "to such persons as the Congress of the United States should elect or appoint for that purpose." This proposal was also made known by proclamation of the Governor, dated October 31, 1778. But this arrangement, if carried into effect, would involve each settler in a lawsuit, the cost of which, even if the verdict should be favorable, would quite likely be disastrous to him. It was apparent that no security for the titles under New Hampshire was to be expected from the government of New York, and that in order to preserve their property, it would be necessary for the inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants to "stand by and maintain their new State organization." This action, if successful, would invalidate the New York patents, and secure protection to the inhabitants in their persons and property.

Previous to the adjournment of the convention in July it was ordered that the first election, under the constitution, should be held in December following, and that the General Assembly, thus elected, should meet at Bennington in January 1778. But military operations so engrossed public attention, that the constitution was not printed seasonably to have the

election holden in December. The convention was, therefore, summoned by the Council of Safety to meet at Windsor, on the 24th of December, 1777. This body assembled, and after revising the constitution, postponed the day of election until the first Tuesday of March, 1778, and the sitting of the Assembly until the second Thursday of the same month. The election was held at the appointed time, and the Legislature met at Windsor on Thursday, the 12th of March. To this, the first General Assembly of the State under the constitution, the representative from Pittsford was Jonathan Fassett.

"The Assembly divided the State into two counties by the range of the Green Mountains, that on the west side being called Bennington, and that on the east, Cumberland. Each county was divided into half shires, for which special courts consisting of five judges each, were appointed to continue in office until county officers could be elected as provided for by the Constitution." Rutland shire was bounded on the south by the north line of Dorset and Timmouth, and the judges appointed for this shire were Joseph Bowker, Heber Allen, Charles Brewster, John Starks and Jonathan Fassett. Among the important acts of this session was one confiscating tory estates. The Council of Safety had the previous year ordered the confiscation of the personal property of tories, and Jonathan Fassett, of Pittsford, was appointed one of the commissioners of sequestration, his commission being dated Nov. 28, 1777. But this year the General Assembly passed (March 26th) a bill empowering the Governor and council "to act respecting tory lands as they shall judge proper or advantageous to this State, and do justice to the persons that owned said lands." Under this bill tory estates might be disposed of and the proceeds put into the treasury of the State. Agreeably to these provisions the following estates in Pittsford were sold by James Clinghorn, commissioner of confiscated estates. The first was the home-stead (one hundred and ten acres) of Roger Stevens, Jr., "which

was forfeited to the State by his treasonable conduct," and sold September 9th, 1778, to his uncle, Benjamin Stevens, for £330. The second was an estate (two hundred and twenty acres) belonging to William Marsh, of Manchester, "forfeited by his treasonable conduct," and sold December 7, 1778, to Edward Harris of Londonderry, N. H., for £500. The third was a lot (one hundred and ten acres) belonging also to Roger Stevens, Jr., and sold February 8, 1779, to John Gilmore of Londonderry, N. H., for £455. This lot "was bounded south on lands of the heirs of Isaac Buck, east on Otter Creek, north on land said Claghorn sold to Benjamin Stevens," and appears to have been identical with the farm now owned by G. and F. Hendee.

The experience of 1777 served to show the necessity of a thorough organization of the militia; for though the frontier towns might not be invaded by any formidable force, yet they were continually exposed to the depredations of scouting parties, to guard against which it was necessary to have the militia in readiness to march at the shortest possible notice. Early in the year 1778, a company was organized in Pittsford, consisting of nearly all the able-bodied men in the township, and the following were the officers duly commissioned:

Captain—Benjamin Cooley.

Lieutenant—Moses Olmstead.

Ensign—James Hopkins.

This company was attached to the Fifth Regiment of the State, of which the following were the officers:

Colonel—Gideon Warren.

Lieut.-Colonel—James Claghorn.

Major—Nathaniel Smith.

Adjutant—Nathan Smith.

Quartermaster—George Root.

The constant fear and apprehension of the people will appear from the following:

"LETTER FROM GOV. THOMAS CHITTENDEN TO COL. FLETCHER.

BENNINGTON, 13th June, 1778.

SIR:—Inclosed you have my particular order for drafting 73 men from your regiment. I have received intelligence this morning by express from Head Quarters at Rutland, that a scout of 500 of the enemy are now at Crown Point, who have just returned from a scalping tour in —— County who have brought with them a considerable number of —— as it depended on that attempt an immediate attack on our post at Rutland. I flatter myself you will not lose one minute's time in executing such orders. Pray sir, consider the distress of the poor frontier inhabitants who are hourly in jeopardy of their lives, and let humanity inspire you to exert every faculty to give them immediate relief.

I am sir, your humble serv't,

THOMAS CHITTENDEN, *Capt.-Gen.*

Col. Fletcher."

In the month of March, 1778, an event occurred in the town of Shelburne which proved fatal to two of the inhabitants of Pittsford. One of the early settlers of that township, Moses Parsons, had raised a large crop of wheat the previous year, and soon after it was harvested—on the approach of the British and Indians up the lake—he, with others, deeming it unsafe to remain in that vicinity, removed to another part of the State. Early in March the following year he returned with his family to Shelburne, and under the protection, and with the assistance of a company of armed men commanded by Capt. Thomas Sawyer of Clarendon, attempted to thresh out the wheat and secure it. While they were engaged in this work Joshua Woodward of Pittsford and Samuel Daniels† made a journey to Shelburne for the purpose of purchasing wheat, and were under

* We found this letter, with the blanks indicated, in the State archives at Montpelier.

† Mr. Daniels had removed from Pittsford to Salisbury.

the necessity of remaining through the night. Apprehending an attack by the tories and Indians, Capt. Sawyer and his men, and also Woodward and Daniels, lodged with Parsons' family in the log house, which they barricaded and rendered secure at every point, with the exception of one window. The attack was made that night, and through that window Woodward and Daniels were killed at the first fire of the enemy. After a severe encounter the enemy were repulsed, with a loss of one white officer and one Indian chief who were found dead in the field, besides several who were thrown into the lake through a hole cut in the ice. This fight occurred on the 12th of March, 1778, and of those comprising Capt. Sawyer's little band not a man was lost.

"The following day Capt. Sawyer buried the bodies of Woodward and Daniels, also of the two men picked up on the field, having first cut from the nose of the Indian chief his jewels, and secured his powder horn and bullet-pouch, as trophies of his victory."*

Military operations this year were not of very much importance, being mostly limited to a few incursions into the frontier towns by small parties of Indians and tories, but it is not known that more than one of these extended as far as Pittsford. In November a British force came up the lake as far as Ticonderoga, and ravaged the towns upon the shore; and a small party of British, Indians and tories came to Pittsford, but the inhabitants remaining in the town had received timely notice of their approach, and were collected in Fort Mott prepared for a vigorous defence. The enemy came to the house of Roger Stevens, Jr., which was occupied by Mrs. Stevens and her infant daughter. An Indian seized the child and was about to dash its head against the stone chimney, but upon being informed that the father of the child was in the British

* History of Salisbury.

service, he smilingly handed it to its mother, and the whole party quietly departed. The near approach of the enemy thoroughly aroused the inhabitants and a strong force was immediately sent in pursuit. That Pittsford contributed fully her share of men will appear from the following:

"Pay Roll of Capt. Cooley's company in Col. Warren's Regiment of militia in the service of this, and the United States commencing Nov. 8, 1778, and ending the 13th, both days included.

Names.	No. of Days.	Wages per Month.	Total.
			£. s.
James Ewings,	6	2-10	0-10
Silas Mosler,	6	2-10	0-10
Gideon Cooley,	6	2-10	0-10
Ebenezer Drury,	6	2-10	0-10
Edward Owen,	6	2-10	0-10
Nehemiah Hopkins,	6	2-10	0-10
Ashbel Hopkins,	6	2-10	0-10
Ebenezer Lyman,	6	2-10	0-10
Samuel Ellsworth,	6	2-10	0-10
Israel Ellsworth,	6	2-10	0-10
Hopkins Rowley,	6	2-10	0-10
Sidias Blodgett,	6	2-10	0-10
Benjamin Stevens,	6	2-10	0-10
Ephraim Stevens,	6	2-10	0-10
Aaron Parsons,	6	2-10	0-10

DECEMBER 15, 1778.

The within Pay Roll examined and approved and the treasurer is directed to pay the same which is £8.

THOS. CHITTENDEN.

Date above, received of Ira Allen, Treasurer, the contents of this order which is £8.

JAMES CLAGHORN,
BENJAMIN COOLEY, *Captain.*"

We find on the Pay Roll of a company of men raised in a time of alarm to defend the frontiers of this State—Capt. Thomas Sawyer's company, in 1778, the following names:

Jonathan Rowley, entered March 9, discharged March 18.

Matthew Cox, " " " "

James Hopkins, " " " "

These men received their pay £2—14s—0 each, December 28, 1778.

The continental troops having been withdrawn from the State, the frontier towns were particularly exposed to the ravages of an enemy that was ever ready to take advantage of their defenceless condition. As the people found themselves left to their own resources for protection, on the 25th of February, 1779, through their representatives in general assembly, they constituted the Governor and council a "Board of War with full power to raise any number of men that they should think necessary for the defence of the frontiers, and to make any necessary preparations for the opening campaign."

We copy the following proceedings of the Board of War in reference to Pittsford :

BOARD OF WAR, ARLINGTON, }
March 12, 1779. }

Whereas this state is a frontier to the northern enemy, it is therefore necessary some lines should be ascertained where this state will attempt to defend the inhabitants. Therefore, Resolved that the north line of Castleton, the west and north lines of Pittsford to the foot of the Green Mountains, be and is hereby established a line, between the inhabitants of this state and the enemy—and all the inhabitants of this state living to the north of said line are directed and ordered to move with their families and effects within said lines. This board on the petition of the inhabitants, do also recommend the inhabitants of Castleton

and Pittsford to immediately erect a picket fort, near the center of the inhabitants of each town—and that the women and children (excepting a few near the fort,) move to some convenient place south and that the men with such parts of their stocks as may be necessary, remain on their farms and work in collective bodies with their arms.

The following is a copy of "Orders to Capt. Thomas Sawyer commanding at Fort Ranger,"* dated Arlington, May 14, 1779 :

The design and object of a garrison's being kept at your post is to prevent the incursion of the enemy on the Northern frontiers and to annoy them should they come within your reach; as there are two other forts, one at Castleton, and the other at Pittsford, dependent on yours, you are to take care that they are properly manned and provided proportionable to your strength at Fort Ranger. You will keep out constant scouts towards the lake, so as to get the earliest intelligence of the motion and designs of the enemy. You will keep the command of Fort Ranger and the other forts depending until otherwise ordered by me, or until some Continental Officer shall take the command. You will post the earliest intelligence of the motion of the enemy to me and guard against surprise. Given under my hand.

Tuos. CHITTENDEN, *Capt. Gen.*"

We have already stated that Fort Mott was built by the combined voluntary efforts of the inhabitants of the town in 1777, and that it was afterwards strengthened at the expense of the State and occupied by a small detachment of State troops. The next year the inhabitants of the town presented a bill to the General Assembly for labor and other expenses which attended the building of this fort. The assembly appointed a committee, consisting of Joseph Bowker and Roswell Post, to

* Name of the Fort at Rutland.

examine the structure and to inquire into the justice of the claim. The following is the report of this committee:

We the subscribers being a committee appointed by the Hon. General Assembly of this State, to examine the cost expended by the inhabitants of the town of Pittsford in building a picket fort in said town, having been to said fort and examined the committee that was appointed by said town to oversee said business, and likewise examined their accounts.

Beg leave to report that it is our opinion the labor done on said picket fort is not charged higher than is reasonable, and that said accounts have been kept regular.

JOSEPH BOWKER,
Roswell Post, } Committee.

October —— 1779.

Rutland was made the headquarters of the State troops, and a small garrison was kept at Fort Mott, but whether this garrison was maintained wholly or only in part at the expense of the State, is not now known. As this fort was in part neighborhood property, it is quite likely that those whose interests it was primarily designed to protect, contributed largely towards its support.

In May, 1779, the commander at Fort Mott received information that the enemy in considerable force was coming up Lake Champlain to annoy the settlers in that vicinity; and in order to ascertain the truthfulness of this report he sent a scouting party, consisting of Ephraim Stephens, commander, Benjamin Stevens, Jr., Ebenezer Hopkins, and Jonathan Rowley, Jr., on a reconnoitering expedition. The commander of this party had orders not to venture across the lake, but to make every discovery that could be made, in that vicinity, without doing it. The route from Pittsford to the lake was nearly north-west, between twenty and thirty miles, through nearly one continued forest. On their arrival at the lake nearly opposite

to the Fort at Ticonderoga, the commander was determined to cross over notwithstanding he was forbidden by his orders to do so, and all his party remonstrating against it, yet he could not be dissuaded, and at that place he procured a canoe and passed over to the Fort, where they spent some time in visiting, and reconnoitering in that vicinity, without discovering any signs of the Indians. They were induced to venture further, and accordingly went on board of their canoe, and proceeded down the lake as far as Basin Harbor,* where they made a landing. After examining the shore for some distance up and down the lake, and back into the forest, they became satisfied that there were no savages in that vicinity and returned to their canoe. When they had started out some little distance from the shore, feeling inclined to show their courage, as they had gone thus far without discovering the least trace of any enemy, they concluded to give one salute by discharging all their pieces. To their astonishment the echo of their guns had but little more than returned to them, before a party of some fifteen or sixteen Indians appeared on shore, on the very spot of land which they had just left, and their leader called out, "If you wish to save your lives, surrender and come on shore." Stevens and his men disregarded the command and pushed out into the lake amidst a shower of bullets, none of which, however, took effect, and they were soon out of range. The hostile party sprang into a canoe which the Americans had not discovered and began the chase. An Indian lay upon his belly in the bow of the boat, and as others loaded the guns and passed them along to him, he was enabled to repeat his shots rapidly and at the same time with deliberate aim. For a time these shots proved harmless; but at length young Rowley who sat in the stern of the retreating craft, steering it, received a shot in the back of the head. He fell so suddenly dead from his seat that his oars and

* This is one of the best harbors on the lake, and is situated on the easterly shore in the town of Ferrisburgh, and three miles north of the southwest corner of it.

hat fell into the lake. His companions plied their oars with redoubled energy, hoping to reach the opposite shore and escape. But finding their pursuers gaining upon them, they decided to surrender and trust themselves to the mercy of their captors. The Indians, when they came up, with apparent sternness, commanded the prisoners to leap from their own canoe into theirs. When they had done this, one Indian sprang into the prisoners' canoe, and, before their eyes, took the scalp from the head of the dead man; and when he had returned to the Indians' boat, the other, with the dead man in it, was turned bottom-side up, and left to float wherever the winds should drive it. The Indians then, with their prisoners, directed their way back to the eastern shore, and immediately commenced their march into the wilderness. When they had encamped for the night, the prisoners soon perceived that their feelings were about to be harrowed and torn beyond anything they had ever experienced. They beheld with horror the scalp of their comrade stretched upon the top of a pole, and they were commanded to follow the Indians in single file, dancing round it in a circle. The prisoners were kicked and pounded because they were reluctant to join in their fiendish mirth with all their might. After the dance the prisoners' hands were tied, and they were compelled to lie each one between two Indians, and each had an arm tied to that of an Indian. The next night they arrived at a place where there was quite an encampment of Indians. Among them was an aged squaw pointed out to young Hopkins, (then but sixteen years of age,) and he was told that she was to be his mother. Seeing his extreme youth to be mingling in such scenes, she began to howl and lament most hideously over him, and combing his hair with her long fingers, she sent a chill of horror through his whole frame. Leaving this place, in a day or two, they arrived at a village where were quite a number of inhabitants, and here a new trial awaited the prisoners. They perceived that the leader of the

savage party had obtained by some means, some ardent spirits and had become nearly intoxicated. Of course he was full of courage and bravado, and being destitute of everything like humanity, he seemed to be blood-thirsty and inexorable as a tiger. He ordered arrangements to be made for the massacre of all the prisoners, and it was some two hours before the rest of the party could dissuade him from his purpose. The prisoners were taken to St. Johns, and on approaching the shore—the latter part of the journey to that place was upon the lake—they saw a party of savages—some two hundred—drawn up in two lines, facing each other, with a narrow passage between them extending several rods. Through this passage each prisoner was to go, the Indians striking him with sticks or clubs, as he passed along to the head of the line, where the Indian chief stood with open arms ready to receive him. Near the edge of the water were placed young squaws who amused themselves by seizing the prisoners and ducking them in the water as they jumped from the boat upon the shore. Ephraim Stevens was the first to pass this savage ordeal. As he leaped upon the shore he was not only pitched into the water, but was attacked with clubs and soon knocked down. Being, however, a young man of extraordinary strength and activity, he soon rose. To compel him to advance so slowly through the passage that each might have a chance to strike him, a large and stout Indian went directly before him, walking backward. Stevens had scarcely commenced before he threw his feet, by a sudden spring, into the breast of the Indian before him and threw him upon his back, and then by running with great velocity, he received scarcely a blow. For this exploit of agility and courage, he received the most marked manifestations of approbation from the multitude. They came round him, and slapping him upon the back, gave him to understand that they could not have been better pleased.

Hopkins was the next to follow, and as he jumped upon

the shore he was seized by an aged Indian and directed to follow him. He soon found that the object of this Indian was to hide him, that he should not be compelled to suffer that barbarous treatment. When he had led him slyly back out of the crowd, he pointed to a wigwam standing back some eighty or one hundred rods from the place where they were assembled, and bid him *run*. He did so, and found in the wigwam to which he was directed an aged squaw, whose locks were white almost as snow, and who exhibited a remarkable sympathy for him, and immediately got him something to eat.

Benjamin Stevens, Jr., whose turn came next, noticing a squaw ready to seize him, made a false motion to jump, when the squaw, springing to catch him, lost her balance and fell into the water. Stevens then leaped over her, creating so much merriment that he went through the course without receiving a blow, and was accosted by the old chief with "Good Indian! Good Indian!"

The prisoners were taken to the St. Lawrence, in the vicinity of Montreal, and the Indians of that village, male and female, soon gathered together and prepared for the carousal usual on such occasions.

Here, Ephraim Stevens was separated from his companions, his great strength and activity rendering him an object of extreme solicitude, and all his movements were carefully watched. The carousal being ended, he was confined in a small room and a guard stationed at the door. Early the next morning the door was opened and an Indian, who had not been there the night before, entered the room and fixed his eyes long and keenly on the prisoner. Stevens immediately recognized this Indian as one of a party that had visited Pittsford before the war, on a hunting expedition, and one with whom he had there had some quarrel or difficulty.

The visitor soon disappeared and presently two large, stout Indians came and stood in the door apparently as guard. In a

short time a young squaw came and stood behind these two with looks of intense sorrow, and which even dissolved into tears. "By this time," says Stevens, "I made up my mind that my old acquaintance, on Otter Creek, was determined to wreak his vengeance on me by a cruel sacrifice of my life, in the barbarous manner the Indians are sometimes wont to do. I determined to place myself in the hands of a less dangerous enemy or lose my life in the attempt. I looked around for some weapon, but saw none sufficient to use. I then thought I would try to pass the two Indians in a quiet and peaceable manner, as if I wanted carelessly to view the premises. Slowly and awkwardly I approached the door, but one of the Indians sprang forward, placed his hand on my breast, and shoved me back into the room. I quietly yielded to his push and made as though I was about to resume my seat, but as he was returning to the door, I sprang with all my might and threw both prostrate on the ground. I flew like lightning through the door and the young squaw cried 'Run! Run!' but I needed no urging. In the midst of my speed I met a small British guard who had in custody my two companions, B. Stevens and E. Hopkins. I passed them swiftly; their officer smiled me, told me to stop and I should not be hurt. I first intended to leave them all, but taking into view all the circumstances of my situation, I concluded it would be impossible to escape, and being promised that I should receive no harm, I returned and surrendered to them." He and his companions were soon taken to the British garrison. Here he was visited by his brother, Roger Stevens, Jr., who had turned Tory and was then a Captain in the British service. Roger reproved Ephraim for joining the rebels, and behaving disloyally towards the King. Ephraim retorted, cursing the King, and reproaching Roger for deserting his country. Roger promised Ephraim the liberty of the city if he would give his word not to leave it. Ephraim

spurned the offer with indignation, and the three captives were sent to prison. Here Ephraim, for his praise of the Americans and contemptuous dispraise of the King and his cause, was bound-enslaved and fettered. His great strength enabled him to break the ordinary iron fetters, and he was loaded down with heavy irons. He and his companions were then put on board a vessel, sent to Quebec and there thrown into a dungeon. Their keepers, supposing them safe in that place, took off their fetters. There they were confined till the following fall, when they were taken out under guard to labor in harvesting corn and grain. In some way they eluded the guard, escaped, took a boat, crossed the river, pushed into the wilderness and after wandering fourteen days with little to eat except roots and the bark of trees, they came in sight of the Green Mountains. But as they were fishing in the head-waters of the Connecticut river, they were recaptured by the Indians, taken back to Quebec and again thrust into prison. They were now ironed, and their guard was commanded to exercise the strictest vigilance. In a few months, when the guard had become somewhat negligent, the prisoners managed to get the iron keys out of their bolts, and inserted instead thereof keys made of pewter, smoked in the candle to give them the appearance of iron. Having thus recovered the use of their limbs they improved the nights in digging a hole under the prison wall, which was also the main wall of the city, twelve feet thick. In the prison was a large chimney with a stone mantel, underneath which was an iron bar. This bar the prisoners appropriated to their use during the night, and restored it to its place in the morning before the arrival of their keeper, who found them as usual, in irons and to all appearance secure. The dirt and rubbish taken from under the wall were put in the bunks, and beds made over them, so that they were concealed from view. The prisoners dug to the last stone in the wall, and were only waiting for a

dark night to make their escape, when one of their number, under the influence of liquor,* became unruly, commenced digging in the day time and was discovered. Then all their plans were frustrated and their labor lost. As soon as they found they were discovered, the prisoners threw all their rubbish into one large room, and ladies and gentlemen from all parts of the city came to see what the Yankees—covered with irons—had done. Their keeper offered a reward to any one who would tell where the tool was that had been used in the work. Ephraim Stevens replied that it was in the chimney, and this was searched from bottom to top without making the discovery, and for aught we know the iron may be there to this day.

The press-gang occasionally called at the prison and beat up for volunteers to man the British navy. On one of these occasions Ephraim Stevens declared that he was ready to go. His comrades remonstrated with him and told him he would never return, but he assured them that he would be back within a week. He set out and was conducted on board a vessel in the river, when the Captain, after showing him over the ship, asked him how he would like to be a sailor. "First rate," said he, "but the first chance I have I will put a brand of fire into the magazine and we will all go to hell together," and he did the king and all on board. An attempt was made to hang him to the yard-arm. The rope was put around his neck and while it was being adjusted Stevens shouted, "Draw away! I will find neck as long as you will halter! Draw away! You are a set of infernal cowards! I dare you to hang me,—thousands of Yankees will be upon the war-path! Down you and your king." In about a week the captain ordered his men to take Stevens back to prison, declaring that "he would have no such fellow on board his ship."

In the winter of 1781, the prisoners succeeded in digging

* It appears that there were other prisoners here besides the three that have been mentioned.

their way out of the prison, and eluding the vigilance of the sentinels, they proceeded up the St. Lawrence on the ice, traveling in the night and secreting themselves by day. They suffered keenly from cold and hunger. One bitter cold night, Ephraim, being a little in advance of his party, fell through the ice. He promptly reinstated himself on the firm ice before his companions came up; but as he was completely drenched with water which almost instantly turned to ice, he knew that he must get to a fire or perish. This was extremely difficult. The British government had threatened severe punishment to any who should aid escaping prisoners—but there was no alternative save death. A farm-house was seen not far distant. Stevens approached it alone, and knocked for admission. The inmates were asleep, but he aroused them, told his story, and after much importunity, reinforced by the pleading of the man's wife, he was admitted at the muzzle of a gun, a fire was made and Stevens relieved of his sufferings. His companions soon joined him, and the next night they proceeded on their way. At length, when about a day's journey from Vermont, they missed their way, fell in with some British scouts, were recaptured and taken back to their prison in Quebec. Meanwhile, their friends in Pittsford, receiving no intelligence from them, supposed they were dead, and employed Elder Elisha Rich to preach their funeral sermon.

In June, 1782, Benjamin Stevens, Sen., of Pittsford learning that some prisoners were to be exchanged at Whitehill, made the journey thither hoping to hear something respecting the fate of his son, and his companions. While standing upon the wharf a vessel came in, and the first to disembark was his own Benjamin. What imagination can realize that scene? The dead was alive! Ephraim Stevens and Ebenezer Hopkins were also exchanged on this occasion and returned to their families. These young men were of Capt. Thomas Sawyer's company, and received forty shillings per month for the time of their captivity.

The following is copied from a certificate in the office of the Secretary of State:

"State of Vermont, Clarendon, August 14, 1782.

To the Pay Table. This is to certify that Benjamin Stevens and Ebenezer Hopkins were taken prisoners, while in the State service, on the 12th day of May, 1779, and carried to Canada with Ephraim Stevens, at the same time lost their guns and accoutrements and were exchanged on the 9th of June last.

THOS. SAWYER, *Capt.*"

The following certificate is also extant :

"Certified extract of the Journal of the General Assembly of a resolution of October 19, 1782, to pay Ephraim Stevens, Benjamin Stevens, Ebenezer Hopkins and Jonathan Rowley five dollars each, for guns they each lost in the service of the State, when they were taken prisoners in the year 1779."

CHAPTER V.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR CONTINUED.

Act Relating to Tories; Incursions of the Indians; Fort Vengeance; Murder of Caleb Houghton; Alarm, Pittsford Company marches to Mount Independence; Capture of Mr. Matson, Mr. Crippen and Miss Cox; Bridge built over Otter Creek; Provisions for the Army; Contemplated attack upon Fort Vengeance; Interview between Patriot and Tory; Close of Hostilities.

The people of this State became so exasperated at the tories for the unworthy part taken by them in the great struggle, that the General Assembly, in February of this year, passed the following "Act to prevent the return to this State of certain persons therein named, and others who have left this State or either of the United States, and joined the enemies thereof.

" Wherens [here follow the names of one hundred and eight persons, but only one from Pittsford, viz.; Roger Stevens, Jr.,] and many other persons, have voluntarily left this State, or some of the United States of America, and joined the enemies thereof; thereby, not only depriving these States of their personal services, at a time when they ought to have afforded their utmost aid in defending the said States against the invasion of a cruel enemy, but manifesting an inimical disposition to said States, and a design to aid and abet the enemies thereof, in their wicked purposes.

And whereas many mischiefs may accrue to this, and the

United States, if such persons should again be admitted to reside in this State.

Which to prevent,

Be it enacted, &c., that if the said [the one hundred and eight names repeated] or any of the before mentioned persons, or either of them or any other person or persons, though not specially named in this act, who have voluntarily left this State, or either of the United States, and joined the enemies thereof, as aforesaid, shall, after the passing this act, voluntarily return to this State, it shall be the duty of the sheriff of the county, his deputy, the constable, selectmen, or grand-jurors of the town where such person or persons may presume to come, and they are hereby respectively empowered and directed, to apprehend and carry such person or persons before an assistant or justice of the peace; who is hereby required to call to his assistance one or more assistants or justice of the peace, who are hereby directed to give their attendance, according to such requisition, and if upon examination into the matter, the said justices shall find that the person brought before them is any one of the before described persons, they shall order him to be whipped on the naked back, not more than forty, nor less than twenty stripes; which punishment shall be inflicted, and the delinquent shall be ordered to quit this State immediately.

Be it further enacted, that if any person shall continue in this State one month, or shall presume to come again into this State, after such conviction (without liberty first had and obtained therefor, from the Governor, Council, and General Assembly) and be convicted thereof, before the superior court of this State, he shall be put to death.

Be it further enacted, that if any person shall, willingly or willfully, harbor or conceal any of the persons above named or described, after their return to this State, contrary to the design of this act; such person, so offending, shall, on conviction thereof before the superior court, forfeit and pay the sum

of five hundred pounds; two-thirds thereof to the use of the State, the other third to the use of him or them who shall prosecute the same to effect."

The Roger Stevens, Jr., who was included in this act of proscription, will be remembered as the brother of Ephraim. In 1774, or early in 1775, he built a grist-mill in the town at the mouth of the Stevens' brook, near the old ford. It was on a fifteen-acre lot that had been given by the Proprietors in 1772, for a mill-privilege. At the breaking out of the war he espoused the cause of England, constructed a raft upon which he put his millstones, irons, &c., and floated them down the Creek as far as Middlebury. He then withdrew to the British army in which he served as a lieutenant. During the war his family abode in Pittsford, and it was known that he occasionally visited them; but it was done secretly, as he was aware that he was an outlaw, and liable at any time to be arrested and punished. After the passage of the act of which we have given a copy, his residence here was carefully watched by the inhabitants of the town, who were anxious to secure him; for it was well known that he was furnishing the enemy with information which was very valuable to them in their work of plunder and destruction.

One dark night in the month of July, Moses Olmstead, discovering a bright light in Stevens' house at an unusual hour, was convinced that he had returned on a flying visit to his family. He communicated his suspicions to the men in the fort who immediately turned out and surrounded the house. Three of their number were chosen to enter, but on doing this, they discovered no one except Mrs. Stevens and her two children. It was afterwards ascertained that he had been forewarned of their approach, and was secreted among the weeds close to the logs of his house. It was also uncertain that he had conducted a party of some thirty Indians to the vicinity of the fort, with the design of attacking it; but finding it strongly

garrisoned the Indians retired, while Stevens improved the opportunity to visit his family.

The inhabitants of the town were frequently alarmed by the reported approach of small parties of the enemy, and on all such occasions the women and children repaired to the fort, where they remained till the alarm subsided. In the month of November, Deacon Caleb Hendee, Elder Elisha Rich of Clarendon, and Deacon Murray, late of Orwell, went in company to Neshobe to view a lot of land near the house of George and Aaron Robbins. After an inspection of the land they called at the house of the Messrs. Robbins and then returned to Pittsford. A few minutes after they left the house it was attacked by the Indians, and the two owners were killed. Most of the other inhabitants of Neshobe were made prisoners and their houses burned. About ten o'clock that night the news of this attack reached Pittsford. The same hour, Deacon Hendee, with the assistance of Elder Rich, Deacon Murray and Richard Hendee, the Deacon's brother, who happened to be there at that time, placed his whole family (including his aged mother) on horseback, and traveled all night as far as the town of Clarendon, where they arrived at the house of Elder Rich, early the next morning.* A company of Col. Gideon Warren's regiment was dispatched to the scene of distress, where it remained three days, but the enemy having retreated the company was withdrawn. Capt. Wright and the Lieutenant being absent, Ensign Blanchard had command of the force on this occasion. We find the name of Stephen Mead of Pittsford on the roll of this company.

Fort Mott was illly adapted to shield the people from the protracted efforts of a powerful foe. Accordingly, being roused by the startling acts of cruelty and bloodshed which had been perpetrated, they resolved to have a fort built that would accommodate a large garrison and afford them adequate pro-

* Hendee's MS.

tection. This subject was laid before the Board of War in the fall of 1779, with the assurance that if such a fort should be constructed, the inhabitants of Pittsford would contribute liberally towards the expense. This Board appointed a committee to look into the subject and to report the result of their investigations. We have not been able to find the report, but that the investigations were made and the report submitted will appear from the following:

"BOARD OF WAR, }
ARLINGTON, April 6, 1780. }

Resolved, that said Board accept of the report of their committee respecting building a fort at Pittsford, &c.

Resolved said fort be built near the north line of Pittsford where Major Ebenezer Allen shall judge proper. That said fort be a picquet with proper flanks with barracks for 150 men inclosed—that said fort be accomplished as soon as may be.

Resolved, to raise one company of 75 men exclusive of officers to join Major Ebenezer Allen for defence of frontiers—8 men from Col. Warner's regiment to be raised from Wells, Clarendon, Timmonth and Wallingford, Isaac Clark to be Captain, Benjamin Everst 1st Lieut., Rufus Branch 2d Lieut. and Capt. Jonathan Fassett commissary of purchaser."

The spot selected for this fort was on the farm of Caleb Hendee in the north part of the town, and at the time of taking possession of it, Joseph Safford as the proper officer gave Mr. Hendee the following receipt:

"Pittsford, May 3, 1780.

Received of Mr. Caleb Hendee for the use of the State the year ensuing a part of his farm, viz: all his improvements on the east side of the Creek, except 6 acres of plough land on the interval, and one acre of pasture land adjoining and north of his barn, and five acres of wheat and three quarters of an

acre of land whereon he had turnips the year past. For the use of said land I promise, in behalf of the State, to pay him 24 pounds, as specie went in market in the year 1774, Provided we are able to maintain this post so as to secure the troops; if otherwise we are obliged to evacuate this post on account of the enemy, one half of the above mentioned sum shall be due him, which sum is to be paid at or before the first day of December next.

JOSEPH SAFFORD, Barracks Master."

Work was immediately commenced upon this fort, and the following account of it was furnished by the late Gen. Caleb Hendee to Henry Hall, Esq., of Rutland, to whom the writer is indebted for a copy :

"The site selected for its location was on the upland about a mile north-easterly from Fort Mott, and around the very spot then occupied by the dwelling house of Caleb Hendee, Sen., and was between the present residence of Samuel Hendee and that of Chester Thomas. The stage road from Pittsford village to Brandon passes over the ground formerly occupied by this fort. Like all the other forts in Vermont, it was a picket fort; a trench was dug five or six feet deep, the trunks of trees, mostly hard maple and beech, a foot or a foot and a half in diameter, were sunk into the trench as closely together as possible, extending sixteen or eighteen feet above ground and sharpened to a point at the top; between each log a stake was driven to fill the space left by the round, unshewed logs; within the pickets a breastwork was thrown up about six feet high and about six feet broad at the base, and composed entirely of dirt and logs. At a height convenient for the garrison were loop-holes between the logs, and large enough at the center for the barrel of a musket to pass through, and radiating outside and inside so that the soldiers within could move the muzzles of their guns in the loop-holes and command a wide range without, while the loop-holes were so far from the

ground on the out-side that the enemy's shots coming through them would pass over the heads of the garrison. The form of the fort was square, enclosing an acre or more of ground. On each corner jutting outside was a flanker, with two stories, that is, a floor was laid across each about eight feet from the ground answering for a ceiling to the space below; above this floor or ceiling was the sentinel's box with loop-holes above and below, from which the musketeers could rake the approach to the fort in every direction with a deadly fire. On the east of the fort was a large double gate of oak plank thickly studded with large headed nails or spikes so as to be completely bullet proof, while on the west side of the fort was a wicket-gate; within the fort, extending along the north side were the officers' barracks, and on the south side the soldiers' barracks. In the northwest corner was the magazine for the munitions of war, a framed building; in the northeast and southwest corners were wells, but these were soon neglected and the garrison supplied themselves with water from a spring thirty or forty rods east of the fort. The space between the officers' and soldiers' barracks was the parade ground. The fort was finished in June, 1780. After the war the barracks were long used as dwelling houses, and one room of them may even now be seen, standing at the west end of Samuel Hendee's barn yard."*

The new fort was doubtless in a condition for occupancy early in June, though we find the following record of the proceedings of the Board of War at a later period:

"IN BOARD OF WAR, }
ARLINGTON, July 14, 1780. }

Whereas, it has been represented to this board that 20,000 brick are wanted to build chimneys in the barracks in the fort on the north line of Pittsford, Therefore *Resolved*, that this board do recommend to Major Ebenezer Allen to furnish five

* Since the above was written, this, the last vestige of the old barracks, has been demolished.

fatigue men that are accustomed to the business if any there be, to assist the barrack-master in making said brick, who shall be allowed one shilling each in hard money or an equivalent for each day in addition to their pay. *Resolved* that the commandant of said fort be allowed to keep one horse and one cow in the State's pasture and the barrack-muster see that there be no other cattle of any kind kept on the State's cost. *Resolved*, that there be no more barracks built in said fort on the State's cost for the time being."

The following are copies of some of the bills paid by the State for labor, and material used in the fort, and for some improvements afterwards made &c &c.:

"State of Vermont Dr.

To Jonathan Rowley.

By one draft chain	£0—14s—0d
“ two oxen at 6s.	0—12 —0
“ one Iron wedge	0— 3 —0
“ one hoe	0— 3 —0

	1—12 —0

GERSHOM BEACH, Amr."

"State of Vermont Dr.

To Nehemiah Hopkins.

To labor on fort in Pittsford by request of
Ebenezer Allen in the month of May
1780,

To 6 days work of himself at 3s. per day	£0—18s—0d
To 4 days ox work at 1s. 6d.	0— 6 —0
To an axe delivered to Major Allen for the use of the garrison	5 —0

	1— 9 —0"

"State of Vermont Dr.

To William Cox.

To 40½ lbs Nails	£2— 2s—6d
" 20 days work of one pair oxen	2— 0 —0
" 8 pairs door hinges—19 lbs	1— 4 —0
" one ox yoke and irons	0—12 —0
" one bushel corn	0— 3 —0
" one piece of chain	0— 6 —0
	—————
	6— 7 —6"

"The following bills were paid by Jonathan Fassett's order as commissary:

To Jonathan Rowley for wheat	£10—15s— 0d
" Caleb Hendee for flour	4—11 —10
" " " for beef	10— 0 — 0
" Gideon Cooley for transportation	18— 9 — 8
	—————
	43—17 — 4"

This may certify that this state is indebted to Gideon Cooley eighteen pounds nine shillings hard money for transporting provisions from Rutland to Pittsford the last campaign for state troops.

Pittsford, Feb. 19, 1781.

JONATHAN FASSETT, C. P."

"State of Vermont Dr.

To Gideon Cooley.

1780 Sept. 14. To taking 11 rafts of boards from Sutherland's mill in Rutland to Fort Vengeance at 24s.	£13— 4s—0
To 3 quarts 1 pt. and 1 gill Rum	0—14 —6
" dressing two wolfs' skins	0— 3 —0
	—————
	14— 1 —6"

"PITTSFORD, Aug. 8, 1780.

State of Vermont to William Cox Dr,

To finding house room and lodging for Ichabod Downing, a soldier in William Hutchins company, Major Allen's detachment, the time he was lame with a broken thigh, it being from the 4th of April to the 3d of July 1780, at 3s. 6d.	
per week	£1—12s—6d
To one gallon of vinegar and bandage	0— 6 —0
	—————
	1—18 —6"

"PITTSFORD, October 25, 1780.

This certifies that Jonathan Rowley let me have for the use of the state at Pittsford,

22 lbs nails at one shilling per lb.	£1— 2s—0d
20 bushels Indian corn at 3s. per bn.	3— 0 —0
2 tons of hay at one pound eighteen shillings per ton	3—12 —0
To pasturing two yoke of oxen 12 weeks at four shillings per week	1—15 —0
To one ox cart	6— 0 —0
	—————
	15—10"—0

For which he hath received no pay.

JOSEPH SAFFORD, JR.".

Capt. Benj. Cooley received by order of Pay Table, for labor done by sundry Persons on Fort in Pittsford £3—14s—0d

"After the fort was completed Major Ebenezer Allen, of Tinmouth, with about one hundred and fifty men was put in command of it. They were scarcely established in their new

quarters before one of their number was missing. Caleb Houghton, a young man aged about twenty years who came from the east part of the State, went unarmed to the residence of Joshua June to obtain some garments which Mrs. June had washed for him. He had been gone from the house but a short time when Mrs. June heard the report of a gun. Stepping to the door and looking up along the road she saw an Indian in the act of transfixing Houghton with his bayonet.

For some time previous to this event the horrid atrocities of the Indians had produced such an effect upon Houghton's mind that he had a frightful dream of being captured and tortured by them, and had been heard afterwards solemnly to declare that he would never be taken alive by them. These facts were recollected at the fort when Houghton's absence was unexpectedly protracted, and sad fears were entertained as to his fate. A party of men were sent out to look for him, and after a while they found his corpse about half a mile south of the fort, bearing marks of a fierce struggle and of savage revenge. This took place beneath an oak tree* which stood about one hundred rods northeast of Mr. June's house, and when the land was cleared this tree was thoughtfully spared, and may still be seen pointing out the spot where Houghton fell a victim to Indian ferocity. The soldiers took the body of their comrade, carried it to the fort and thence buried it on a small knoll, about fifteen rods east of the present residence of Samuel Hendee.

Major Allen, to whom are attributed some of the peculiarities of his relative, old Ethan, exasperated by the loss of a good soldier and the audacity of the murderer, made strenuous efforts to discover the perpetrators of the deed, but for several days no trace of them could be found. Allen collected his men in front of the large gate on the east side of the fort, and publicly

* The top of this tree has been broken off, but new branches have sprung out from the trunk so that it now presents quite a thriving appearance.

vowed vengeance against all and every Indian that should come within his power, and then, as a memorial of his vow, he took a junk bottle filled with rum, stepped out in front of his men and dashed the bottle furiously against the gate and christened the establishment 'Fort Vengeance,' and by that name it was ever after known."

Caleb Houghton, the subject of the foregoing narrative, was a descendant of Robert Houghton who was born in 1658. Robert had one son, Ebenezer, who married Susannah Farnsworth, and died May 15, 1790. A son, Cyrus, born in 1722, was the result of this marriage; and he married Hodessa, daughter of Simeon Houghton of Petersham, and settled in Bolton, Mass., where were born the following children, viz.: 1st, Cyrus, born 1745; 2d, ——, born 1747; 3d, Ebenezer, born 1750, died August 16, 1826; 4th, Olive, born 1752; 5th, Abigail, born 1755; 6th, Mary, born 1757; 7th, Caleb, born 1760; 8th, Aaron, born 1766. The parents, with their children, removed from Bolton to Putney, Vt., before the Revolutionary war.*

The first we hear of Caleb Houghton as a soldier was in the year 1777, when he was enrolled in the company commanded by Capt. John Patty in Col. Williams' Regiment. This company was called out Aug. 29th, and was in service twenty-five days. Young Houghton received for this service £2. 10s. 8d.

We next hear of him as a member of Capt. Jesse Safford's company of forty-two men, a part of whom were sent to the fort at Pittsford and a part to Royalton. Houghton was with that part of the company which came to Pittsford† and he was allowed pay for eighty miles travel. The total amount of his pay, drawn by the family, February 20th, 1783, was £8.

The Continental troops having been withdrawn from the

* Manuscript "Genealogy of the Houghton Family" by the late Fisher M. Rice,
† July, 1780.

State the inhabitants were left, during the year 1780, to their own resources for protection against the enemy from Canada. Measures were immediately taken for strengthening the forts at Rutland, Castleton and Pittsford; two companies of rangers were raised and kept in constant service guarding the frontiers and watching the movements of the enemy, and the great body of the militia was continually held in readiness to turn out *en masse* whenever their services were required. The first alarm this year occurred in the month of March, but we can learn nothing of the cause or of the circumstances attending it. Several companies of militia were called out, but the alarm subsiding, they were soon discharged.

The following is the "Pay Roll of Capt. Benjamin Cooley's company in Col. Ebenezer Allen's Regiment called out on the alarm of the 23d of March, 1780, commencing the 23d and ending the 28th, inclusive:

<i>Capt.</i> —Benjamin Cooley,	James Smalley,
<i>Lieut.</i> —Moses Olmstead,	William Cox,
<i>Ensign</i> —James Hopkins,	Adonijah Brooks,
<i>Sergt.</i> —Silas Mosher,	Luther Drury,
" Barzaleel Richardson,	Nehemiah Hopkins,
" David Crippen,	Ebenezer Ambler,
" Samuel Ellsworth,	Samuel Sheldon,
<i>Clerk</i> —John Barnes,	Gershun Beech,
<i>Corp.</i> —James Stevens,	Timothy Miller,
" Ashbel Hopkins,	David Gilmore,
" Aaron Parsons,	Gideon Cooley,
Samuel Wiswell,	Daniel Stevens,
Abel Stevens,	Jabez Olmstead,
Jeremiah Parker,	Samuel Crippen,
Solomon Story,	Benjamin Stevens,
Jona Partridge,	Stephen Jenner,
Ephraim Story,	

Total amonnt of compensation for 6 days service £38—
12s—8d.

AUGUST 10, 1781.

The within Pay Roll examined and approved and the
Treasurer is directed to pay the same which is £38—12s—8d.

Thos. CHITTENDEN.

Date above mentioned received of Ira Allen, Treasurer,
the contents of the above which is £38—12s—8d.

BENJ. COOLEY, *Capt.*"

In the month of May, the enemy in considerable force
came up the lake, made an incursion into the valley of the
Mohawk, and ravaged the country in the vicinity of that river.
The Governor of New York, with some militia then at Albany,
hastened to Lake George for the purpose of intercepting him
on his return. When near the lake he sent a message to the
commanding officer at Castleton, requesting that he should
meet him at Ticonderoga with such force as he might be able
to collect. On receiving this communication Major Ebenezer
Allen immediately called the roll of his men and took up the
line of march for the lake. At the same time he sent orders
to the officers commanding the militia in the vicinity, to collect
their men and join him at Ticonderoga. The next day he
wrote the Governor "that he had reached Mount Independence
with over two hundred men, and was in the immediate expecta-
tion of being joined by one hundred more, but that he had no
bouts, which he trusted the Governor would furnish to enable
him to cross over to Ticonderoga." But the enemy taking
a northerly course reached Lake Champlain at Crown Point
and made his escape. Among the one hundred by whom
Allen was in immediate expectation of being joined, was the
company from Pittsford, and it reached Mount Independence
but a very few hours after the arrival there of the forces from
Castleton.

The following is a copy of the "Pay Roll of Capt. Benjamin Cooley's company in Col. Ebenezer Allen's Regiment of Militia, called out on the alarm of the 30th of May, 1780, commencing the 30th of May, and ending the 6th of June, 1780, inclusive, the money being due from the State of Vermont :

NAME.	No. Days.	Amt. of Wages. £ s. d.	Miles Travel.	Tr. Fees. £ s. d.	Total.
					£ s. d.
Capt. Benj'a. Cooley,	8	2- 2-8	56	0-18-8	3- 1-4
Sergt. Bezaleel Richardson,	"	0-12-8	"	" "	1-11-4
" Jabez Olmstead,	"	0-12-8	"	" "	1-11-4
Corp. Ashbel Hopkins,	"	0-11-8	"	" "	1-10-4
" Gideon Cooley,	"	0-11-8	"	" "	1-10-4
Ebenezer Drury,	"	0-10-8	"	" "	1- 9-4
Darius Crippen,	"	0-10-8	"	" "	1- 9-4
Solomon Stacy,	"	0-10-8	"	" "	1- 9-4
Caleb Cooley,	"	0-10-8	"	" "	1- 9-4
Abdon Owen,	"	0-10-8	"	" "	1- 9-4
					16-11-4

Received of the Treasurer of the State the contents of the above, August 10, 1781.

BENJAMIN COOLEY."

It does not appear that any considerable body of the enemy invaded Vermont during the summer; but the frontier towns were exposed to sudden irruptions of small parties of Indians and Tories and rumors of their depredations kept the people in a continual state of alarm. In July one of these marauding parties visited Pittsford, took Isaac Matson prisoner and carried him to Canada, where he was compelled to run the gantlet, receiving wounds which nearly proved fatal.*

About this time Mr. Sammel Crippen set out to walk from his hay-field to Fort Vengeance. Shortly after he left, a hay-rake, which he had left standing in the field, was observed to fall without any apparent cause. Mrs. Crippen construed this as an ill omen and prophesied that her husband would

* Hendee's MS.

never return. On reaching the house of John Barnes, Mr. Crippen was offered the use of a horse and saddle, which were accepted, and from thence he proceeded on horseback. As he was passing a high rock, which may now be seen near the northwest corner of the woods that are situated north of the present town alm~~house~~, a party of Indians and one Tory* darted out from behind the rock, seized the horse by the bridle, pulled Mr. Crippen from the saddle and led both man and beast around behind the rock. Detaining Mr. Crippen as a prisoner, they cut the throat of his horse and besmeared their hands and faces with its blood. The saddle-tree they took with them after stripping off the leather. A short time after, Mrs. Sarah, wife of Joshua June, and her sister, Betsey Cox, came along, each on horseback, Mrs. June being in advance and having her infant son John in her lap. As they were passing the rock before mentioned, the Indians and the Tory rushed out from behind it and attempted to capture them. Mrs. June having a spirited horse quickly left them in the rear, while Miss Cox was made a prisoner. The throat of her horse† was cut, after it had been wounded by a musket ball. The bandits with their two prisoners then commenced a retreat northward, going over Cox Mountain that they might keep clear of the fort, going thus by a circuitous route to their camping ground about a mile east—or perhaps a little north of east—of the site of Brandon village. The Indians, through the influence of Stevens, released Miss Cox, and having given her some food, they allowed her to return home, but with a caution to proceed slowly lest, probably, that the knowledge of their violence and their whereabouts be too promptly conveyed to the fort, and the garrison thus be enabled to fall upon them. She started slowly for home, but had proceeded only a short distance when she saw coming towards her from the south a large, fierce-looking Indian, fully armed; he was acting as a rear

*It is understood that there were four Indians and one Tory, the latter being Roger Stevens, Jr.

†This horse belonged to Jonathan Rowley.

guard to the hostile party. When, however, he saw in her hand the food she had just received, he seemed to regard that as her passport; and, stepping aside from the path she was traveling, he motioned her to pass by. As soon as she got out of his sight, she stopped and divested herself of every article of clothing—save the gown—that might impede her flight. Winged with all the speed which the fear of a hideous captivity and the sweet hope of escape could inspire, she flew towards the fort some five miles distant, and at the gate of it she presently fell exhausted. Her father caught her in his arms and carried her within the enclosure, where she received such kindly attention as her circumstances required.

Miss Cox was the first to bring the garrison news of the capture of Mr. Crippen. Information of this and other outrages committed by the enemy soon ran abroad, and an additional military force under the command of Capt. John Spofford, was sent to assist in protecting the inhabitants.

The following is the "Pay Roll of Capt. Spofford's company, Col. Ebenezer Allen's Regiment of Militia in the service of the State of Vermont, in the month of August, 1780, from the 4th to the 18th, Pittsford.

<i>Capt.</i> —John Spofford,	Alfred Hathway,
<i>Lieut.</i> —Nathaniel Blanchard,	Job Caudor,
<i>Ensign</i> —Jedediah Jackson,	Samuel Swift,
<i>Sergt.</i> —Peabody Kinne,	William Boyd,
“ John Barns,	Jacob Patridge,
“ Elisha Wright,	Silas Whitney,
“ Isaac Harwell,	Seth Kenne,
<i>Corp.</i> —Peter Powell,	Elisha Allen,
“ Timothy Winter,	Ichabod Kendall,
“ Elisha Johnson,	Seth Chandler,
“ Luther Drury,	Benjamin Whipple,
Jacob Johnson,	David Whipple,
Samuel Pratt,	Silas Pratt,
Abraham White,	Comfort Smith,

James Fitch,	Ziba Parsons,
Cephas Smith,	Enos Ives,
John Trask,	Gershum Obs,
Samuel Owen,	John Ward,
Miles Leet,	John Dagget,
Joshua Southwort,	James Olmstead."

The Indians were pursued, but they succeeded in escaping with their prisoner to Canada. It is understood that Mr. Crippen was not subjected to very cruel treatment during his captivity, and that within less than a year he was permitted to return home on his parole. He then moved to Wallingford where he would be less exposed to attacks, and there he died of typhus fever early in 1783. Mr. Crippen was intending to make Wallingford merely a temporary residence, as he wished to return to Pittsford as soon as peace should be restored. Accordingly he did not dispose of his real estate here, so that we find the following account of the disposition of it by the administrator :

"Inventory dated 25th Nov. 1784. Real estate as follows:

Home Lot appraised	£87—10s—0
Half Pitch undivided land	£4— 0 —0
Half Pine Lot	£0—15 —0
Half acre Town Plot	£0—12 —0

Set off to Widow Esther 22½ acres & buildings.

By order of Legislature sitting at Windsor dated 8th of April, 1784, the Administrator was authorized to sell to the amount of £70—0—0 to pay debts, which was done and sold as follows:

One half acre of Town Plot bid off by Widow ;
 One half acre Pine Hill Lot sold to James Ewings.
 Fifty acres of Undivided Land to Caleb Hendee ;
 Home Lot to Samuel Campbell including Widow's Third with
 the incumbrance."*

* Probate Records.

Isaac Matson, after being held a prisoner in Canada over two years was released, and returned to his family in Pittsford. During his captivity one of his sons, Joshua, had died, and the family were in mourning, not only for him, but also for the father who they supposed was likewise dead.

Early in October the enemy, about one thousand strong, under the command of Maj. Carlton, came up the lake, took Fort Ann, with its garrison of about fifty men, and then proceeded to Fort George* which was also compelled to surrender. On their way to Fort George they had laid waste the country; and they now kept up indications of making further advances. This invasion created great alarm, and the militia of Vermont were called out and ordered to rendezvous at Castleton, under the command of Ethan Allen. Capt. Cooley of Pittsford received this order on the 11th, and the next day he was at Castleton with his men.

The following is a copy of the "Pay Roll of that part of Capt. Benjamin Cooley's Company in Col. Ebenezer Allen's Regiment of Militia, called out on the alarm of the 12th of October 1780, and commencing the 12th, and ending the 18th inclusive, the money being due from the State of Vermont:

Entered 1780.	Left 1780.	Days.	Wages per Month.	Amount of Wages.	Amount of Subsistence.	Total.
Capt. Benjamin Cooley,	Oct. 12.	Oct. 18.	7	8-0-0	1-17-4	-0-4 2-0-8
Lieut. James Ewings,	"	"	"	5-8-0	1-5-1	0-4-8 1-9-0
Sergt. David Crippen,	"	"	"	2-8-0	0-11-1	0-1-0 0-11-1
Corp. Ashbel Hopkins,	"	"	"	2-4-0	0-10-2	0-1-0 0-10-2
Nehemiah Hopkins,	"	"	"	2-0-0	0-9-4	0-1-0 0-9-4
Caleb Cooley,	"	"	"	2-0-0	0-9-4	0-1-0 0-9-4
Ephraim Strong,	"	"	"	2-0-0	0-9-4	0-1-0 0-9-4
David Gilmore,	"	"	"	2-0-0	0-9-4	0-1-0 0-9-4
Edward Owen,	"	"	"	2-0-0	0-9-4	0-1-0 0-9-4
Adonijah Brooks,	"	"	"	2-0-0	0-9-4	0-1-0 0-9-4
Total					8-3-0	

* Fort George was situated at the head of Lake George.

Received 10th August 1781, of the Treasurer of the State of Vermont the contents of the above.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, *Capt.*"

The enemy, however, kept to the westward of the Vermont settlements, and soon retired to Ticonderoga and Crown Point. While at Castleton Gen. Allen entered into negotiations with the British commander for an exchange of prisoners, and it was mutually agreed by the two commanders that hostilities should cease during the continuance of these negotiations. The enemy did not resume hostile demonstrations, but soon returned down the lake to Canada, when Gen. Allen, in conformity to a resolution of the Vermont Assembly, discharged the militia and volunteers raised for the defence of the northern frontier.

The fort at Center Rutland was made the principal depot of supplies for the troops in this section of the State, and from this central storehouse ammunition and provisions were conveyed to the forts at East Rutland, Castleton and Pittsford as they were needed. But it was found inconvenient to transport supplies to the fort in Pittsford, in consequence of there being no bridge across Otter Creek within the limits of the town. Usually, teams could cross at Pitt's ford, but in time of high water even this was impracticable.

This subject was brought before the General Assembly at its session in October, and a committee was appointed to investigate the matter and report. The following is the record:

" Friday October 20, 1780.

The committee appointed to examine into the necessity of building a bridge in Pittsford &c, brought in the following report, viz:

That it is our opinion that there ought to be a bridge fit for ox teams to pass over in said Pittsford with the greatest possible expedition.

Signed, JEREMIAH CLARK, *Clerk.*"

"Whereas it is represented that it is dangerous transporting provisions across a creek near Capt. Benjamin Cooley's in Pittsford to the garrison in said town by reason of there not being a good and sufficient bridge over said creek; Therefore,

Resolved, that a bridge sufficient for ox teams with a loaded cart to pass over, be built over the said creek near Capt. Cooley's on the State's cost, and that Ebenezer Drury, Capt. Joseph Safford and Capt. Benjamin Cooley be, and they are hereby appointed a committee to see that said bridge is immediately built; and the commander of the garrison in Pittsford is hereby requested to detach such a number from the garrison from time to time, as he can spare to work on said bridge, under the direction of said committee."

It would appear from the record that Capt. Cooley superintended the construction of the bridge, and the following is his bill:

"State of Vermont to Benjamin Cooley Dr.

For building a bridge in Pittsford by order of the General Assembly.

To 114 days work Chopping	£22—16s—0d
" 20 days work Hewing	6— 0—0
" 42½ days Ox Work	4— 5—0
" 6 Gallons Rum	4—16—0
" Flour and Sance	1— 0—6
" 100 wt. Pork	2—10—0
" 38 wt. Beef	0—12—4
" 2900 ft. Plank	4— 7—0
" 1500 ft. Boards	1—10—0
" Paying for two axes which were broke at Bridge	0—12—0
" One Hoe lost	0— 6—0

" Pine Timber for said Bridge	1—10—0
" Wintering one pair of oxen for State	5— 0—0
	<hr/>
	54—18—0
Credit. By 19 Bushels Corn	3—17—0
	<hr/>
Balance due	51— 1—0”*

Capt. Cooley received this bill Aug. 10, 1781.

That this bridge was built over the Creek near the present Gorham bridge there can be no doubt. One or two men now living remember that there was a bridge there about the year 1790, and that its location was fifteen or twenty feet further south than the present bridge, and indeed a portion of one of the abutments is still visible.

At this time the finances of the country were in such a condition that it was found difficult to procure provisions for the army, and the Legislature, then in session at Bennington, passed the following: "Act for the purpose of procuring Provisions for the Troops, to be employed in the service of the State for the year ensuing.

Whereas, the state of the present currency, or medium of trade, is such that it is difficult to procure necessaries to supply the army, without calling on each town for a quota of such supplies. Therefore,

Be it enacted, &c. that there be seventy-two thousand, seven hundred and eighty one pounds of good beef; thirty six thousand, three hundred and eighty-nine pounds of good salted pork, without bone, except back bone and ribs; two hundred and eighteen thousand, three hundred and nine pounds of good merchantable wheat flour; three thousand and sixty-eight bushels of rye; six thousand, one hundred and twenty-five bushels of Indian corn, collected at the cost and charge of the respective towns in this State, and at the rates or quotas hereafter affixed to such towns; and that there be a Commissary General

* This bill does not include labor furnished by the commander of the fort.

appointed, who shall take charge of the same. And it shall be the duty of the selectmen of each respective town, to procure such quota by the time or times hereafter directed by this act; which selectmen are hereby empowered to levy a tax on their respective towns, for the procuring such quota; and also such quantity of salt, and number of barrels, as shall be found necessary for that purpose, and all the attending charges, either in the articles before described, or in silver or paper currency.

* * * * *

And be it further enacted, that if the selectmen or other person appointed by the Governor and Council, shall collect, store up, or deliver to the Commissary General or his order, any provision, except such as is of a good quality, and well packed and saved; or of any other than the quality required in this act, and be thereof convicted, he shall pay treble the value of the article he should have procured, to be disposed of as aforesaid, unless it appears that it was not through his neglect, or for want of properly attending to his duty.

Provided always, it shall be the duty of the selectmen to warn a town meeting, and consult the inhabitants on the method of procuring such provision. That the time for the flour, pork, rye and Indian corn to be provided and stored in each town, be the first day of January next; that the time for the beef to be provided and delivered, be, for the towns of Manchester, Sandgate and to the northward in the county of Bennington, the eighteenth day of December; that the time for the beef to be provided and delivered for the towns of Arlington, Sunderland and all the towns to the southward thereof in said county, be, on or before the fifteenth day of January next; that the time for the beef to be provided and delivered for the county of Cumberland, be, on or before the fifteenth day of January next. And that all such beef be delivered on the foot, except such towns shall otherwise agree with the Commissary.

* * * * *

And be it further enacted, that to the end it may be known which town is guilty of embezzling, or misapplying, or being any ways concerned in collecting, storing up, or delivering to the Commissary, any provisions, except such as is of good quality, and well packed as aforesaid; each town shall mark their barrels of provision, to be delivered as aforesaid, with the same mark as is established by law to brand* their horses.

The Assembly fixed the quota for every town in the State; that for Pittsford was of Flour 900 lbs; of Beef 300 lbs; of salted Pork 150 lbs; of Indian Corn 24 bushels; of Rye 12 bushels.

The year 1781 is marked by no very formidable invasions by the enemy, but military operations were mostly confined to marauding expeditions by small parties of Indians and tories who improved every opportunity to harass the settlers. Fort Vengeance was kept garrisoned, and the few families remaining in the township resorted there for protection on all occasions of alarm. The land was often cultivated by men working in companies, well armed, over whom sentries were placed to sound an alarm in case the enemy made his appearance. Few families spent the night in their houses when it was known that the Indians were hovering in the vicinity; the most went to the fort, though occasionally a few betook themselves to some thicket in the woods; and in the morning perhaps they would find one or more of their dwellings in ashes.

In the month of May Jabez Olmstead, then living some two hundred rods east of the residence of his father, discovered in the evening several Indians in the vicinity, and not deeming it safe to repair to the fort in consequence of the Indians lurking in that direction, with his wife and one child he proceeded some distance in an opposite direction, and lay in the woods

* The General Assembly, in February, 1779, passed an act establishing town brands for horses. The brand for Pittsford was the figure 3.

through the night. The next morning he found his home destroyed and gave notice of the event at the fort when the soldiers went immediately in pursuit of the destroyers. During their absence the Indians attacked the fort, and as there were but three men remaining in it, the women seized muskets, fought with the men, and made a successful defence.

A few days later, as men were at work at Fassett's saw-mill,* one of the men, who had been placed as sentry, discovered on the top of the hill, some twenty rods west of the mill, the heads of some six or eight Indians, with feathers in their caps. A swift messenger was immediately dispatched to notify the commander at Fort Vengeance of the presence of the savages, and to ask him to send a company to intercept their return to the north. The Indians finding the workmen in considerable force and prepared for defence, slowly withdrew. The mill party, well armed, went in pursuit, and followed close upon them till they arrived near the brook, just south of the present town firm, where the Indians discovered, advancing upon them from the north, the company which had been sent out from the fort; and finding their retreat northward cut off, they quickly plunged into the channel of the brook, and by holding their heads low, succeeded in making their escape unobserved eastward.

In the month of June, the Indians in considerable force planned a vigorous assault upon Fort Vengeance. The force engaged in this daring undertaking was a troop of the Coughmawgus, under the command of that renowned chief, "Tomo," who had established for himself the reputation of a shrewd, bold and powerful leader. The attack was planned for the night and was designed to be a complete surprise to the garrison. But some of the soldiers, who had been out on a scouting tour, discovered the enemy at some distance from the fort, and,

* This mill stood where Smith and Barber's mill now stands.

readily divining their intention, hastened back and communicated the intelligence to Capt. Brookins. The latter at once laid his plans to give the savages a warm reception. Early in the evening he sent a detachment of his men a little distance from the fort in the direction from which he supposed the Indians would advance, and ordered them to lie in ambush and wait the approach of the red-skins. As soon as they should come within range the soldiers were to fire upon them and retreat immediately within the fort. A little past midnight the listening soldiers heard in the distance the cautious tread of agile feet, and soon appeared dimly the dusky forms of the foe, in single file, pressing on towards the fort. The signal was given, when an unexpected volley threw the braves into confusion, during which the whites retreated within their fortification, and the garrison held itself in readiness for an assault. But when the Indians had felt the fire of the ambuscade the air was rent with their hideous yells; and as those sounds died away, there died also their purpose of attacking the fort. Early in the morning the soldiers sallied out to the scene of the night's adventure, when they discovered blood with other indications that their volley had been effective. They were satisfied that one Indian had been killed and others wounded.

The following is the "List of names in Capt. James Brookins' Pay Roll of himself and company in service of the State of Vt. from the beginning of the Campaign in 1781 to the 30th of June, in said year.

<i>Capt.</i> —James Brookins,	John Hayman,
<i>Lieut.</i> —Elias Hall,	Samuel Swift,
" David Powers,	Jona. Shephard,
<i>Sergt.</i> —Alpheus Hall,	Sam'l. Philips,
" Eleazer Marble,	Asahel Williams,
" Elisher Smith,	Philip Sprague,
" Solomon Cogswell,	Obadiah Noble,

Corp.—Oliver Wright,
“ Silas Brookins,
“ Isaac Grant,
“ Timothy Clark,
Nehemiah Kellogg,
John Lewis,
John Martin,
Eli Freeman,
Jedidiah Blackmar,
Amaziah Church,
Isaac Fenny,
Chauncy Clark,
Hezekiah Rhodes,
Elihu Allen,
Justus Brewster,
Moses Beech,
Jesse Lang,
Daniel Huskins,
David Roberts,
Samuel Morrison
John Wilson,

Nath'niel Hamilton,
Samuel Owen,
Caleb Warren,
Caleb Haywood,
Nath'niel Allen,
Abraham Owen,
Isaac Laughborough,
Sam'l. Chipman,
Richard Chamberlin,
Jona. Newton,
Ephraim Wescott,
Jona. Remington,
Usual Parsons,
John Cook,
Mansan Cook,
John Cristie,
Fifer—Joseph Dewey,
Drummer—Martin Adams,
Comfort Smith,
Moses Powers,
John Cook.”

After the close of the war Tomo returned to Coughnawaga, the residence of his tribe, and engaged in civil pursuits. In that place, for some years, he kept a public house. Captain Brookins, in passing through that region about the year 1800, chanced to stop at this tavern. Observing that the landlord—a stout intelligent Indian—limped a little in walking, he asked him the cause of it. The reply was, “Me wounded at Pittsford fort.” This response brought to the Captain’s mind the night-scene near the fort in 1781, and it occurred to him that this Indian might have been one of the braves wounded by the ambuscade. He made further inquiries in respect to the time and circumstances of Tomo’s wounding, and discovered that the limping landlord was the chief who had led the savages against

the fort on that well-remembered night. Other facts elicited from the chief, were corroborative of the opinion entertained by the garrison at the time, that one Indian was killed and that others were wounded. The Captain neglected to inform Tomo that the former commander of Fort Vengeance was before him, but whether this reticence was prompted by the consciousness that he was then in his power, we are not informed.

A few years later, Allen Penfield, Esq., was traveling through the same region and stopped at the same tavern. Tomo was no longer the landlord, but he was still about there. He was advanced in years and somewhat decrepit. As soon as the old chief learned that Mr. Penfield was from Pittsford, he made special effort to form his acquaintance. He engaged a room, had it well warmed and lighted, and into this he took Mr. Penfield, excluding all other company. Here he spent hours in questioning the stranger respecting the condition of his former favorite hunting-grounds and fishing-grounds. And Mr. Penfield declares that this aged Indian gave a more accurate description of Otter Creek and the adjacent valley, from Sutherland Falls to Middlebury, than he could possibly have done, though familiar with them from his boyhood. Tomo gave Mr. Penfield a full account of the contemplated attack upon Pittsford fort, pulled up his pants and showed him the scar upon his leg where he was wounded by a musket-ball, and narrated the circumstances attending the Indians' retreat, as well as the conveyance of their dead comrade to the place of burial. The interview was pleasant and cordial and full of interest, and at parting the old chief congratulated Mr. Penfield on succeeding to so goodly a heritage, while the latter in turn expressed his wish that the remaining days of his host might be peaceful and happy.

It is very much to be regretted that so little can be learned of the active life of Tomo. For many years he was known to

the white men as a bold and cunning chief, but the most of his deeds have passed into oblivion. His full name was Thomas Orakrenton. It appears that he was born on the 9th of October, 1752. In the Register of Baptisms, &c., of the mission of Sault St. Louis, is found a record of Thomas Orakrenton's baptism, in Latin, as follows:

25 "Evidem baptizavi eum Ecclesice ceremoniis
Orakrenton. puerum eodem die 9 Octobre natum ex patre
Matthia Teshonarenion et ex matre Cecilia
Anhrensite conjugibns quem Thomam nominavit Thomas
Raonhrentsikare filius.

Signe (à un des actes precedents)

Jos. HUQUET."

He married Anastasia Teramistha, by whom he had twelve children, seven of which died in childhood, and five arrived at the age of maturity, as follows: Joseph Tehuasesha, Michel Tsiorourati, Recri* Sajoris, mother of Anne Kaheriton the widow of Syneco Tehemiraron still living, Charlotte Tekaiaks and Susanne Kurakrenton.

During some part of his elder years he carried on a trade in skins in a stone house occupied at the present time by Pierre Keeheréton, called Murray, a merchant, one of his relatives or descendants.

Thomas Orakrenton died at his home in Canglinawaga on the 11th day of February, 1825, as will appear by the following:

6.
Thomas "On the 11th day of February eighteen
Orakrenton. hundred and twenty-five, I the undersigned
 missionary buried Thomas Orakrenton,
 husband of Anastasia Teramistha deceased,

* Or words to that effect.

aged seventy three years and four months the day before yesterday, died with the assistance of the church.

Charles Ohmarera and Jean Baptiste Ateramarikhon who
• • • •

Jos. MARREUX, Priest.

This extract, signed by the actual missionary at Sault St. Louis, alias Caughnawaga, we declare and certify to be a copy of the original inscribed in the archives of the said mission.

Caughnawaga July fourth eighteen hundred and seventy-one.

M. V. BERTIN."

It was probably about this time that the interview reputed to have been held between Captain Benjamin Cooley and Roger Stevens, Jr., took place. It appears that in the evening of the seventh of April, 1780, Capt. Cooley went on horseback to carry home Mrs. John May who had been at his house nursing Mrs. Cooley, who was sick. On his return, when he had got near where the present Gorham bridge now stands, his horse suddenly stopped and appeared very much frightened. "What!" says the Captain, "do you smell a tory?" Applying his whip to the animal he succeeded in forcing him along. No more was thought of the circumstance at the time, but this year, 1781, while Capt. Cooley was on duty at the fort, he received a note from Roger Stevens, Jr., who was in the vicinity at the head of a scouting party of Indians and tories—requesting an interview and appointing a time and place. He asked the Captain, moreover, to appear there with his side arms, and assured him that he would meet him alone, unarmed, and as a friend. The Captain complied, and held a long interview with his old neighbor. In the course of the conversation Stevens remarked to the Captain that he supposed his former towns-men blamed him very much for the part he had acted in the war; but he stated that he had been governed by his convictions of duty, and that notwithstanding the course he had

taken, he was then and always had been, a friend to the people of Pittsford, and that he had done them many favors of which they were entirely ignorant. For when the Indians had taken any of their number prisoners he had used his influence in saving their lives, mitigating their sufferings and effecting their release from captivity. And to convince the Captain that he had restrained from exercising his power to harm the inhabitants, he asked him whether he remembered the evening when returning from Mr. May's, his horse became frightened and refused to proceed, and he inquired of the animal if he smelt a tory. The Captain replied in the affirmative. "Well," said Stevens, "I was but a few feet from you with a party of Indians, and might easily have killed you or made you a prisoner; but wishing you well I restrained, though against the wishes of the Indians."

It is not probable that Stevens remained long about here after this interview, as he persevered in his attachment to the cause of the enemy. After the war, he settled in Canada, near the Rideau river, in which, some years later, he was drowned while shooting ducks. His wife did not long survive him. They had one daughter, Martha, who married a Mr. Burritt, and whose descendants now live in Canada. He had also two sons, Guy and Christopher, both of whom left Canada at an early age and have not since been heard from.

Early in August, Gen. Stark, of New Hampshire, was placed in command of the northern department, with his headquarters at Saratoga, and he was in constant communication with the military authorities of Vermont, who promised him all the assistance in their power to repel the common enemy. Though the British had a large force in Canada at this time, they attempted little, except to make a few demonstrations from St. Johns, still these demonstrations were sufficient to keep the people of Vermont in a constant state of alarm. It is probable that the activity of the enemy was stayed, in view

of certain negotiations then pending between the authorities of Vermont and the British Generals, by which the latter hoped to make a peaceful conquest of the State. The history of those negotiations is foreign to our purpose.* In the fall, however, the enemy in considerable force came up the lake as far as Ticonderoga; but the news of the surrender of Cornwallis, on the 19th of October, so disheartened them that they soon after retired down the lake, and went into winter quarters in Canada, without having done any injury to the people of Vermont.

There was much anxiety in the public mind to know what effect the surrender of Cornwallis would have upon the British and how it would influence their plan of operations for the year 1782. It was generally believed, however, that as they had a large force in Canada, an invasion of the northern frontier would be resolved upon. In anticipation of this, the Legislature in February ordered the raising of three hundred men for garrisoning the frontier posts, and they were to serve from the 15th of April to the 15th of December. The Board of War was directed to allot to each town its quota of said levy, according to the common lists of said towns made for the year 1781, and each town was also required to provide the wages for the non-commissioned officers and soldiers which it furnished, a sergeant to receive two pounds eight shillings per month, a corporal, drum or fife, two pounds four shillings, and a private, two pounds.

But instead of entering at once upon open hostilities, as had been expected, the British agents resumed the negotiations which had been so abruptly terminated the previous fall, and the season wore away in "masterly inactivity," though a large British force in the vicinity of the lake, kept the people of Vermont in a state of continual apprehension, and rumors of aggressive movements created frequent alarms. That Gen.

* For a full account of them consult the excellent work of Gov. Hall.

Haldimand, the commander of the British forces in Canada, intended to enter the frontier towns with a powerful army, about the month of June, there can be no doubt; but before the necessary arrangements could be made, he received from Sir Guy Carleton who had been appointed to the chief command in America, a dispatch communicating the pacific intentions of the new ministry and their instructions prohibiting further offensive movements. These instructions were not then known to the people of Vermont, and consequently they were not wholly relieved from the fears of an invasion until they received intelligence of the provisional articles of peace, which were signed at Paris on the last day of November, 1782.

We have thus sketched the principal events in the Revolutionary war, which have most specially interested the inhabitants of Pittsford. In the office of the Secretary of State, there are certain papers which contain a few supplementary references to persons who resided in this town and it may be worth while to notice them.

On the Roll of "Capt. Brownson's Company called out for the defence of the frontiers of the New Hampshire Grants in June, 1776," we find the name of Jabez Olmstead who served 22 days and received £2—4s—6d.

On the Roll of "Capt. Parmelee Allen's Company of Rangers, Maj. Ebenezer Allen's detachment, raised for the defence of the State of Vermont," are the names of Thomas Tuttle, Nathan Rowley, Hopkins Rowley and Ira Rood, who served from Feb. 1st to Dec. 1st, 1780.

On the Roll of "Capt. Tcham Noble's Company, Col. Warren's Regiment, which served in defence of the northern frontier," are the names of Ira Rood, who served from May 5th to June 18th; and Nathaniel Montague who served from May 7th to June 18th, 1781.

On the Roll of "Capt. William Hutchinson's Independent Company, on duty at Castleton and Pittsford forts," we find

the names of Joshua June and John May, who served from Nov. 20, 1781, to May 1, 1782.

On the Roll of "Capt. Patterson's Company, Col. Warren's Regiment, for service in the alarm in October, 1781," are the names of Samuel Hopkins and James Hopkins.

On the Roll of "Capt. Jotham White's Company, Col. Fletcher's Regiment," is the name of Ashbel Hopkins, who served from July 1st to Dec. 19, 1781.

On the Roll of "Capt. Zadock Everest's Company, Col. Ira Allen's Regiment," is the name of James Hopkins, who was allowed pay for 27 miles travel and 9 days service—1781.

On the Roll of "Capt. Eli Noble's Company, in the service of the State from the 16th of August to the 21st of Nov., 1780," are the names of Aaron Parsons and Abraham Owen.

On the Roll of "Capt. Lee's Independent Corps of Rangers in the three years service," is the name of Jabez Olmstead.

On the Roll of "Capt. Joshua Babcock's Company, in the Battalion commanded by Lieut. Col. Walbridge," is the name of Luther Drury.

PETITION OF JONATHAN ROWLEY AND CALEB HENDEE.

"To the Hon. the General Assembly of the State of Vermont
to Be convened at Bennington Jan. 31, 1782.

The memorial of Jonathan Rowley and Caleb Hendee of Pittsford in Rutland County, Humbly sheweth, that your honor's Memorialists situated in Pittsford, Lying adjoining the Garrison, chiefly on the north side of the Garrison, rendered it impracticable for us consistent with prudence to continue on and improve our houses and lands, we thought fit by the advice of the principal officers of the Garrison to remove our families into the more interior parts of the State, since which time the Garrison has made use of about 2000 feet of boards which were the property of Jonathan Rowley, your honors memorialist, the bigger half of said boards were taken from

his house, the upper and lower floors being loose, and the partition and ceiling boards &c., taken and improved for the barracks, and a considerable number of nails taken for the same use, some of the shingles of the roof taken off for the nails. The state hath been benefited by our fields and meadows for feeding the cattle, and all for the benefit of the state; and we your honors' memorialists have been and still are put to great distress to support their families, we think it altogether reasonable that the state should pay us, at least, what they have been benefited by our property if not the damages for burning our fences for fire wood and many other damages. Your honor's memorialists would therefore pray that the Hon. the General Assembly would appoint a committee to look into the affair and examine into the whole of the circumstances, and make their report to some Board as your honors shall think proper. That your honors' memorialists may be considered and have justice done in the case, as your honors' memorialists in duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated in Danby, 29th June, 1782.

JONATHAN ROWLEY,
CALEB HENDEE."

This petition has the following endorsement:

"In General Assembly Feb. 7, 1782.

The within petition was read and dismissed.

Attest, ROSWELL HOPKINS, *Clerk.*"

"PITTSFORD, May 28, 1784.

Then application being made by Mr. Caleb Hendee of said Pittsford to us John Mott and Amos Cutler of Brandon, to apprise on said day the damages done him the said Hendee, on his place in time of the war by the garrison being erected there in said place. We living near in said Brandon and being in some measure acquainted with the articles that were on said

Hendee's place that are now destroyed or gone, we truly judge the house would have been worth at the end

of the war	£10—12s—6d
Barn would have been worth	6— 0 —0
Fences " " "	15— 0 —0
Wood lot " " "	11— 0 —0
Maple trees saved for sugaring,	5— 0 —0
Apple orcharding	22—10 —0
	£70— 2s—6d

Attest,

JOHN MOTT,
AMOS CUTLER."

Mr. Hendee presented a petition to the General Assembly in 1786, asking for twenty-four pounds as compensation, for one years use of his farm by the State troops. This petition was favorably entertained, and the amount asked for paid.

In this chapter and the one preceding relating to the Revolutionary war, we have given an account of most of the known events, in which the inhabitants of this town or any portion of them, took an active part. Tradition has transmitted to us some anecdotes pertaining to the period immediately following the war, though the most of these are too uncertain to be recorded as authentic history. The following, however, comes from a source which entitles it to credit: Among the early inhabitants of the town were a few men who, at the usual season, dealt quite largely in furs, and hunting and trapping were to them not only pastimes, but sources of considerable income. Abel Stevens was one of this class. In the fall of 1782, or about that time, he went on a hunting expedition to the northern part of the State, and upon territory claimed by the Caughnawaga Indians. In his rambles he chanced to meet a hunter of that tribe. The Indian treated him cordially, professed great friendship, and invited him to accompany him to

new ground where game was more abundant. After a little discussion they agreed to go in company one week, and at the expiration of that time to divide their furs equally. It was a successful expedition, and when the time had expired they divided their furs according to agreement and set out on their return. As they were traveling along a narrow foot-path Stevens who was in advance heard behind him a sound like the snap of a gun. Turning quickly he saw that the Indian had treacherously attempted to shoot him, but his gun had missed fire. Without a moment's delay, Stevens lodged the contents of his gun in the Indian's heart, took the furs of both and returned home.

In about a year from that time Mr. Stevens decided to revisit the same territory. But this time he took with him Gardner Simonds, an experienced hunter from Elizabethtown, N. Y. They were quite successful in collecting furs, but on their return they were followed by a party of Indians who were incensed at them for trespass, and quite likely had in mind the fate of one of their tribe the year before. On reaching the town of Addison, it being late in the fall and quite cold, Stevens went into a house to warm himself. As he sat by the fire, a tall, angry-looking Indian entered the room, and approaching him in a menacing manner, said, "Me come to kill thee." Stevens, who was a very large, athletic man, rose quickly and struck the Indian a powerful blow which felled him to the floor, where he lay some time in an insensible condition. In the meantime Stevens and Simonds hastened on their return, but finding Indians in pursuit, they turned westward and went to Ticonderoga, where they remained several days. After changing their course, the Indians, losing all traces of them, gave up the pursuit and all but one turned back. This one—supposed to be the one whom Stevens had *floored*—came on to Pittsford, and for several days was seen lurking in the woods in the vicinity of Stevens' house. In about a week Stevens,

accompanied by Simonds, returned to Pittsford and on being informed of the proximity of the Indian, he knew very well that the savage was seeking personal revenge, and that his life was in danger. Simonds, who well understood Indian tactics, determined to protect his friend and relieve the town of so dangerous a visitor. Being well armed, he went into the woods near Stevens' house, and lay in ambush, waiting the approach of the enemy. After several days of anxious waiting, he concluded to change his position, and walking cautiously down the Creek, just in the evening twilight he discovered, near the foot of what is now known as Town Hill, the tall form of an Indian creeping stealthily along, and headed towards Stevens' house. Just as he was passing the most easterly point of the short curve of the Creek—that part of it, the channel of which is now nearly dry, the water having ent a shorter channel farther west—Simonds shot him through the heart. Taking his gun, powder-horn and bullet-pouch, together with the rings from his ears, he rolled his body into the Creek, and with the trophies of his victory he proceeded to Stevens' house, and communicated to him and his family the gratifying intelligence of the death of the blood-thirsty being of whom they had such fearful apprehension. This was probably the last Indian who was killed on Pittsford soil. Mr. Stevens resided in this town about ten years after this event, and then with his family he removed to Canada where he died in 1828.

CHAPTER VI.

Immigrants after the War, and their Locations; Proprietors' Meetings; Survey of Town Plot Lots; The Insurrection; Arrest and trial of the "Regulators;" Apology; Leader expelled from the General Assembly; 1780—1790.

Jonathan Warner, Eleazer Harwood and Caleb Cooley located in Pittsford in 1780.

Jonathan Warner was born in Sandersfield, Conn., March 17, 1750, came to Pittsford in 1772, and bought of Isaac Fellows two rights of land originally owned by Benijah Huntley and Nathan Jewett. The deed was dated October 10, 1772, and was in consideration of £20, L. M. A part of this land was so pitched as to include the farms now owned by Mr. Warner's grandson, Jonathan Warner, and E. M. Bailey. The following year he commenced some improvements on his purchase. His first clearing was near where Mr. Bailey now lives. In 1774, he built a log house which stood a few rods north of the ground on which Mr. Builey's house stands, and near the location of the present highway. January 1, 1775, he married Mary Griffin. At that time it was his intention to make his home in Pittsford the following spring; but on the breaking out of the war, he changed his plans and entered the service of his country. He was in the battle of Brooklyn, was with Washington on his retreat through New Jersey, and was also in the battles of Trenton and Princeton. On arriving at the Delaware river the night before the former battle, Washington wished to obtain a boat from the opposite shore, and called

upon some one to swim the stream and get it. Warner volunteered and obtained the boat. Putting him on the shoulder Washington exclaimed, "Brave fellow," and sent him for a dry suit of clothes. His term of enlistment expired in the fall of 1779, when he was discharged and took his pay in continental money which, on account of its great depreciation, went but little way towards procuring an outfit for housekeeping. So little value had the currency that Mr. Warner paid sixty dollars for a small kettle, and about in the same proportion for other things. In the spring of 1780, with his wife and two children, he came to Pittsford and occupied the house he had built before the war. After residing here a short time he went to Connecticut to visit his friends, and during the absence his house here was burnt. On his return he built another house, which stood on the west side of the present road, and on the highest point of ground, between the present residence of Jonathan Warner and that of Abner T. Reynolds. In this house he resided until 1795, when he built the house now occupied by his grandson. Thenceforth this was his residence.

On the 15th of October, 1776, Eleazer Harwood of Bennington had pitched fifty-five acres of land in Pittsford, "being a part of a 3d division lot belonging to the right of Phineas Newton." This pitch included a part of the farm now owned by John M. Goodnough. The year we are noticing (1780), Mr. Harwood cleared the land and built a house near where the red school house now stands, and removed his family here in the fall. In 1786, he came into possession of the land which now constitutes the farm owned by his grandson, Samuel H. Kellogg, Esq., and removed thither, occupying a house which had been built by his son-in-law, Amos Kellogg. A more extended account of him will be given in connection with a different subject.

Caleb Cooley was the youngest son of Benjamin, of Greenwich, and brother of Captain Benjamin of Pittsford, and was

born February 12, 1762. In 1778, Capt. Benjamin Cooley went to Greenwich to see his family, (who, it will be recollectcd, had gone there for safety the year before,) and as he was about to return to Pittsford, he urged his youngest brother to accompany him. Their father, as a special inducement to go, offered to give him one hundred acres of the wild lands in Pittsford. He consented to go, for a few months, and the two brothers resided together, cooking their own provisions and living mostly on wild meat and corn bread. The corn used had either to be pulverized in a mortar, or carried to Charlestown or Bennington to be ground, as neither of the grist-mills in this town was then in a condition to do work.

Although Caleb spent considerable time here, he did not make Pittsford his home till 1780, when he became a member of his brother's family, and from that time till the close of the war, he served under Benjamin in most of the latter's movements as an officer. From his youth he had shown himself strictly honest and faithful in the discharge of every known duty, and when called into military service these traits of character were duly appreciated by his commander. He was consequently assigned to places of great responsibility. After the close of the war he devoted himself to improvements upon a lot of land of which he had obtained possession, and which was located directly west of the lot which had been surveyed to, and was then occupied by Nehemiah Hopkins, and now (1871) owned by H. F. Lothrop. He made the first clearing on the high ground near the interval and about one hundred rods west of the residence of Nehemiah Hopkins. In the spring of 1784, he commenced the construction of a plunk house upon the small clearing he had made, and on the 6th day of May married Elizabeth Sanford of Weybridge, and at once commenced to occupy the unfinished house. Miss Sanford, the bride, was a lady of rare excellence of character, and had passed through scenes of suffering and affliction such as have

seldom fallen to the lot of women, even in the settlement of new countries. She was born April 26, 1762, and was a daughter of Thomas Sanford, who was among the first settlers of Weybridge, (in 1775,) and was among those who shared the disasters attending the settlement of that township. One Sabbath morning in the month of November, while Elizabeth, the subject of this notice, was milking a cow near her father's house, she was suddenly startled by the hideous noise of a party of Indians and tories who were rushing directly towards her. She rose, and, at the sight of her fiendish assailants, was so amazed that she stood motionless for a few moments and then, fainting, fell upon the ground. The Indians took the pail and drank the milk. They then went into the house, made her father and younger brother prisoners, and having split the cradle into small pieces they piled them up in the middle of the room and set the pile on fire. They then told the women they might leave the premises, if they would not inform their neighbors. The destroyers carried the feather beds out of the house, and having ripped open the ticks, scattered the feathers in every direction. Mrs. Sanford had what was very uncommon at that early day—two silk dresses. The Indians seized them, tore them into shreds, which they tied upon the ends of long poles, and raising these in the air, they ran with them about the premises, exulting to see the fragments of silk fluttering in the breeze. One fierce-looking Indian took Mrs. Sanford's infant child and was about to dash its head against a stone, but the earnest pleadings of its mother touched his heart, and he restored it unharmed to her arms. The other families in the township shared a similar fate. The Indians killed all the cattle in the neighborhood or drove them to the British army, made all the men prisoners and took them to Quebec, and left the women and children to take care of themselves. These lingered in the vicinity a few days, not knowing which way to turn; but as their stock of provisions had been destroyed or

carried off by the enemy, they were soon reduced to great distress. In a solitary wilderness, far away from friends and human habitations, with no means of support and at such an inclement season of the year, their condition was truly deplorable, and no wonder they were upon the verge of despair. One afternoon while upon the bank of the Creek, they descried in the distance two canoes descending the stream. Not knowing whether those canoes contained friends or foes they watched them with breathless anxiety, but as they drew near their fears were dissipated as they received a friendly greeting. The boatmen proved to be a scouting party from Pittsford fort sent out to watch the movements of the enemy. The boats were small, but all were taken into them, except Elizabeth, Miriam and Robert Sanford; the latter, a lad of thirteen years of age, was first taken away by the Indians, but not being able to endure the journey, he was sent back. Those in the boats reached Pittsford fort the following night, and before morning one of the women was delivered of a child. The three others, accompanied by two soldiers, set out on foot for the same place, but they only reached Sudbury the first night where they encamped, and the next day they arrived at the fort. Elizabeth Sanford had been noted for her industry from her youth, and she was now more than ever anxious to do something to support herself and other members of the family. Mr. Arnold of Clarendon was at the fort a few days after the Sanford family arrived there, and Elizabeth made known to him her desire to obtain employment. He told her he would hire her if she could ride to his home, some seventeen miles, on a man's saddle, he being on horseback. She replied that she had helped her father break many a colt, and was ready to mount the saddle. She did so and rode to Clarendon, Mr. Arnold walking by her side. She spent one year in Mr. Arnold's family and then went to live in Mr. Asa Hale's family in Rutland, so that she could be nearer her mother. The Hale family, at that time, fearful of

an Indian attack, did not sleep in the house through the night, but retired to an out cellar; and Miss Sanford, in after life, related many an anecdote connected with that secluded nocturnal abode. After spending a few months there she went to Mr. Kent's, in Benson, in whose family she remained one year, and then returned to Rutland to visit her mother. While there her father, from whom nothing had been heard during his captivity, returned from Quebec, and was on his way to Weybridge in pursuit of his family. Calling at Mr. Rawson's, then living near where J. M. Goodnough now resides, he there received the first intelligence concerning his family. They soon met face to face, and we can easily imagine that it was a joyful greeting. After this meeting Elizabeth went to work in the family of Capt. Cooley of Pittsford, on the expressed conditions that her compensation should be in provisions, and paid to her father to assist him in the support of his family which he was about to collect and then return to Weybridge. Elizabeth did not return with the rest of the family, but remained at Capt. Cooley's till she was married to his brother Caleb, as already mentioned.

As she had labored to support herself and other members of her father's family, she had little furniture, but in that age of simplicity a little supplied all their wants—they were contented and happy. The house in which the earlier part of their wedded life was spent, was nearly square in form, and contained only one room on the first floor, with a small chamber above. At one end was a stone fire-place and chimney. On one side of the chimney was a pantry, and on the other a flight of stairs leading to the attic or chamber. As but little land had been brought into a state of cultivation, the hay crop the first year was small and this was stacked near the house. Their stock the first season consisted of one cow, a pair of oxen and six sheep, which were protected to some extent from the cold of winter by a rude temporary shelter, which in 1787, gave

place to a barn of sufficient capacity to contain both hay and stock. The first spring following their marriage, their stock of provisions running low, Mr. Cooley went to Middlebury to labor a short time, in order to obtain funds to renew their supply. In his absence Mrs. Cooley had the care of their stock, and on one occasion she ascended the hay-stack to obtain a supply for the animals, and while there a fierce wolf came howling about the stack, and endeavored to reach Mrs. Cooley. She kept him at bay with her pitchfork till assistance arrived. They continued to reside there till November, 1794, when they removed to the farm now owned and occupied by their two daughters, Ruth and Ann. The land forming this farm was pitched by Mr. Cooley March 30, 1783, and lay directly east and adjoining the lot owned by Stephen Jenner. It was surveyed as a "part of the original rights of Benajah Huntly and Nathan Jewett, being fifty-five acres of the third division of each of said rights." This was surveyed by Samuel Beach, County Surveyor, assisted by Nehemiah Hopkins and Stephen Jenner.

The house was commenced in the summer of 1794, and was occupied the following winter, though only partially completed. The next season it was chipboarded and otherwise improved, so that it was one of the best residences at that time in the town. Mr. Cooley fell a victim to the malignant fever which prevailed in 1813, and died Feb. 13th, in the triumphs of the Christian faith. Few men have left a better record or been more generally respected; he was a kind husband and father, a highly esteemed neighbor and townsmen, a man of large sympathies embracing the poor and lowly, faithful and conscientious in the discharge of every duty, and as the result of this, he was frequently promoted to offices of trust and responsibility.

Jonathan Dike, Peter Rice and Phineas Ripley located in this town in 1781.

Jonathan Dike was from Coventry, Conn., and had married, December 28, 1775, Esther, daughter of Dan Barnard, Sen., of that town. He purchased of Joseph Lyman one hundred and ten acres of land in the southeasterly part of the township of Pittsford, which land bordered upon and lay south of what is now called Burr Pond. The deed of this purchase was dated March 6, 1780. It is not certain that he made any improvements upon this land, but a few months later he came in possession of what is now the farm owned by Hawkins Hart. How he obtained this we are not informed, as no record of the deed or pitch is to be found upon the Proprietors' books; but that he owned it is evident from the fact that he afterwards sold it with the improvements to David Stark. Having built a small house Mr. Dike came here with his family in 1781, but three years later he removed to Chittenden and spent the remainder of his days on the farm now owned by Arctas Ranney.

Peter Rice was, undoubtedly, a descendant of Edmund who was born in Barkhamstead, South Britain, in 1596, came to Massachusetts, took the freeman's oath May 13, 1640, and was one of the first Proprietors of Sudbury. He had eight sons, and from these have sprung most of the Rice families in New England. We have not been able to trace the genealogy of Peter Rice, but in his first deed of land in Pittsford in 1780, embracing fifty-five acres—a part of the farm now owned by Royal Hall—he is said to be "of Guilford, Cumberland County, Vt." and if so, quite likely he was a son of Micah Rice who was the first settler of that township in 1760. Peter was born July 14, 1745, married Margaret, born November 13, 1757, widow of Job Winslow, and daughter of Benjamin Cooley, Sen., of Greenwich, Mass. He made the first improvements on the farm now owned by Mr. Hall, commenced to reside there in 1781, and remained there till 1789, when he bought of Nathaniel Pinney one hundred acres of land south of Stephen Mead's.

To secure payment Pinney took a mortgage deed of the land to the amount of £74. 8s., and this is the first mortgage found on the town records. Pinney never resided here, but was of Dutchess Co., N. Y., and bought this land on speculation of Stephen Mead, in 1773. This lot included the farm now owned by Ransom Burditt. Mr. Rice built a small house about where the brick house now stands, and into this he removed his family a few months after he had made the purchase.

Phineas Ripley was born in Windham, Conn., where his early life was spent. He came to Bennington, Vt., sometime during the Revolutionary war and enlisted in the army. He was soon appointed Sergeant Major, and served as such in the battle of Bennington. How long he continued in the army we are not informed, but he married Experience, daughter of Samuel Montague, and located in Pittsford, on the farm now owned by S. T. Fenton. If the deed of this land was ever recorded the record has been lost, and consequently we have no means of knowing who was the original Proprietor, or the number and division of the lot. His first clearing was on the east side of the brook* and he resided there in a log house till 1802, when he built the house now owned and occupied by Mr. Fenton.

Eleazer Warner, Amasa Ladd, John Tupper and sons, Simon and Ebenezer, and Amos Kellogg located here in 1782.

Eleazer Warner was the son of Eleazer and Esther (Smith) Warner and was born in Granby, Mass., Sept. 13, 1755. He had for brothers, Eliash and Seth, and for sisters, Mary and Esther. Eleazer came to Pittsford in 1782, and the following year married Hannah, daughter of William Cox. He resided two or three years on the farm of his father-in-law and then purchased a lot of land in the south part of Sugar Hollow—now known as the Lampson place. He built the first house north of the bridge and resided there till 1792, when he bought

*This house stood about forty rods east of the house now owned by Mr. Fenton.

of Gideon Cooley the lot now known as the Bishop Booth place. He made the first improvements and built the house on that farm, and resided there till his death in 1835.

Amasa Ladd came here from Chittenden where he had resided sometime with his brother, Nathaniel Ladd, who was one of the early settlers of that township. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Cox, from whom he received as a gift, one hundred and ten acres of land on the right of Joshua Johnson, the deed being dated Nov. 16, 1782. Two days later this land was pitched (surveyed) in the southeasterly part of the township near what is known as Ladd Hollow. Mr. Ladd never occupied this land, but on the 3d day of Nov. 1784, he bought of Gideon Cooley one hundred acres which included the farm now owned by Abner T. Reynolds. He made the first clearing about sixty rods southeast of the site of the house now on that farm, and there he built a log house which he occupied till he built the present house, about 1790. This is now one of the oldest houses in the town. In the year 1800, he sold this farm to Simeon Gilbert and removed with his family to Malone, N. Y., or near there, where he died. His widow afterwards married Aaron Miller of Rutland, and she died in that town.

We know little of the Tupper family. That they were in this town in 1782, the records conclusively show, though we are unable to fix their exact place of residence. John and his son Simeon purchased of Ebenezer Lyman fifty acres of land here as early as 1776, and it was surveyed by Thomas Baldwin on the 14th of October, as a part of the third division of the right of Aaron Deniho. This included a part of what is now the farm owned by John R. Barnes. In the spring of 1782, they commenced a clearing and built a house about twenty rods from the site of Mr. Barnes' house, and on the east side of the present highway. The family came here some time the following summer, and we are informed that they were from Worcester County, Mass. On the 10th of October, 1785, they purchased

of Jonathan Fassett one hundred acres, a second-division lot of the right of Samuel Whittlesey. It appears that this land was adjoining the fifty acres they had before purchased.

December 15, 1786, John Tupper conveyed his interest in the rights of Deniho and Whittlesey to his son Simeon, with whom he resided till his death which took place a few years later. Before he came here he had been a soldier in the French and Revolutionary wars, and had performed important labor in the service of his country. He was one of the early members of the Congregational Church in Pittsford, and being skilled in vocal music, he was chosen by the choir as their chorister, a position which he held several years. Simeon was also a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and we are informed that he was under Warner in the battle of Hubbardton. His connection with the army was mostly in the capacity of a fifer. Ebenezer made the first improvements on the farm now owned by Eliza Connell. He built the house about the year 1794, married Lois Bisby, and resided several years on that farm. John, the father, died in Pittsford, but the two sons moved to New York.

The Kellogg family is of English descent. Joseph Kellogg, the father of Amos, was born in the year 1731, in the vicinity of Lebanon, Connecticut, and married Mary Cushman who was born in that vicinity in 1732. The date of their marriage is not now known, but their eldest child Amos, the subject of this notice, was born in what was then called Lebanon Goshen, July 7, 1760. He had five brothers, viz.: Joseph, Isaac, Edward, Elijah and Frederick; and one sister, Lucy, who married Thomas Sanford of Weybridge—she who was the mother of Mrs. Caleb Cooley, of whom some account has been given. Joseph Kellogg, the father, moved to Bennington, Vt., with his family before the Revolutionary war, and after its close he located in Castleton, and subsequently in Weybridge where he lived with his son Joseph, who had married and settled in that

township. About the year 1805, he and his wife came to Pittsford to reside with their son Amos, and lived here five or six years, then moved to the town of Henderson, Jefferson County, N. Y., where they again resided with their son Joseph who had removed there from Weybridge. They died in that town, very near together, in 1824 or 1825, having lived together in their married state over seventy years. Isaac, their son, married and settled in Weybridge, where he was killed by being blown from a building about the year 1800. Edward died in Hubbardton, March 7, 1830, aged fifty-nine years, and during the latter part of his life he was a cripple from the effects of disease brought on by exposure in building the Castleton turnpike. Joseph died in Henderson about the year 1827. Frederick married and settled in Canada East, where he died about the year 1828, leaving several children.

Elijah Kellogg, at the age of about fifteen years, was hired out to work and pay an old debt of his father's, which did not exactly please him, and he made up his mind to abscond; so he and a cousin, son of his uncle Preserved Kellogg, of Castleton, took French leave, and neither of them were heard of for nearly thirty years. About the year 1820, his brother Joseph, by some means, heard of a man living in Kingston, Canada, across Lake Ontario from Henderson, by the name of Elijah Kellogg. He went to that place to ascertain whether this man was his lost brother, and to his great satisfaction found he was. He returned home and informed his parents that he had found the long-lost son and brother, which information caused them great joy, and they insisted that the son, who then had a wife and several small children, should be invited and entreated to remove to Henderson. Elijah complied with their request and removed to Henderson where he resided till after the death of his parents, and then he returned to Canada. His cousin, who left this section of country with him, afterwards became a

merchant in the city of New York, where he now lives and has a family.

Amos Kellogg, on the 19th of March, 1777, then in the seventeenth year of his age, enlisted as a waiter for Capt. Brownson, in Col. Warner's regiment of Continental troops, in the Revolutionary war, and served as waiter, soldier and sergeant in that regiment until 1781, when he was offered a Lieutenant's commission by the Vermont Board of War. On application for a discharge Col. Warner consented to give him a *furlough*, but not a *discharge* from the regiment. He was never recalled nor discharged. But he served as a commissioned officer of some grade under appointment of the Vermont Board of War until the close of the revolutionary contest, being connected with the army about six years. He was sick with the measles in Fort Ticonderoga, at the time that fortress was evacuated by St. Clair, and consequently he did not participate in the battle of Hubbardton; but he ran the risk of exposure in traveling to Bennington rather than be taken by the British. He soon recovered, joined his company and took an active part in the battle of Bennington.

He married Lucretia, daughter of Eleazer Harwood, December 7, 1780, he being at that time twenty years and seven months old, and she being sixteen years and nine months. Mrs. Kellogg remained with her parents and with her husband in camp until December, 1782, when they came to Pittsford, and located on the farm where they lived till they died.

That farm, now the home of his son, Hon. Samuel H. Kellogg, was then in a state of nature, not a tree cut nor a house built. It was a second-division lot of the ministerial right, and fell to his father-in-law, Rev. Eleazer Harwood, of whom he afterwards bought it, the deed being dated April 24, 1789.

They came to Pittsford on horseback, with two horses,

bringing their bed, all they had of household goods, also a sister of Mrs. Kellogg, a young girl, on the horses' backs. For several years, while clearing up the land, they fared very hardly, but "stuck and hung, having the pluck of revolutionists." Having been an officer in the army, Mr. Kellogg was appointed to the office of Major, and soon rose to the rank of Brigadier General in the Vermont Militia. His training bills were no small draft upon his income, and to meet these he sat up nights, boiled and made salts which he carried to Bennington and exchanged for money. He always made it a rule to lose no time from his farm work, but time spent in training was made up on the farm, either before or after the day of training, and in that way he was able to keep along in the military line without embarrassment. At that time the officers were expected to treat the soldiers with liquor, and at one general muster he had to furnish a barrel of rum for them on parade. Mrs. Kellogg, too, cheerfully did what she could to assist her husband, she being of a military turn, as might be expected, from the fact of her having married a soldier in the army, when only sixteen years of ago.

The following persons are known to have purchased land and located here in 1783, viz.: Elisha Rich, Benjamin Stevens, Jr., Ebenezer Hopkins, Jr., Joshua Morse, Adonijah and Rufus Montague, Justus Brewster, Elijah Brown and David Starks.

Elisha Rich was a native of Massachusetts, but removed to Clarendon in 1777, and in March, 1783, he located in Pittsford, and made the first improvements on what is now called Furnace Flat. In the fall he built a grist mill on the brook a few rods below where the bridge now stands. He obtained the land of Jonathan Fassett, and this was in three pieces; the first being a third-division lot of the right of John Jenks; the second being the first and second-division lots of the right of Samuel Mansfield; the third being a part of the right of Elihu Hall. The whole consisted of four hundred and forty acres, and

included Furnace Flat and the land eastward to Chittenden line. He built a small house near where the brick house now stands. On the 8th of October, the same year, he bought the farm owned and occupied by Aaron Parsons, but continued to reside near his mill till the 21st of May, 1784, when he sold the mill and one hundred acres of land to Thomas and Samuel Adams, and then moved to the Parsons farm, and planted the whole of the large orchard, the vestiges of which may still be seen. He was a great lover of bees and usually kept from thirty to forty swarms.* A more particular account of him will be given hereafter.

Benjamin Stevens, (son of Benjamin, the early settler,) soon after his return from captivity in Canada, married Lydia, daughter of Elisha Field,† and located on the farm which was first occupied by Roger Stevens, Jr., and afterwards confiscated and sold to Benjamin Stevens, Sen., who sold it to his son Benjamin, June 13th, 1783. The latter built a log house on the west side of the road, and about thirty rods north of the present residence of Benjamin Stevens. Here he resided till 1793, when he sold his farm to his brother Daniel and moved to Cornwall.

Ebenezer Hopkins, son of Nehemiah, another of the returned captives, married Rachel, daughter of Stephen Mend, December 2d, 1783, and located in a house which he had built, about ten rods east of his father's residence. It stood on the bank of the brook about one rod north of the present residence of John Stevens and near the bridge. It would appear that for a few years he assisted his father in the care of the mill and culti-

* Hendee's MS.

† Elisha Field was born in Sudbury, Mass., 1717, married Betsey Pratt in 1733, and located in Leverett, from which place he removed to Bennington, Vt., in 1761. In 1782, he came to Pittsford and resided one year on the farm afterwards owned by Col. Hammond, and then moved to Cornwall where he died in 1791. Betsey, his widow, died in 1800. Their children were—1st, Lydia, (Mrs. Stevens,) born in 1760; 2d, Elisha, born March 3d, 1763, married Ruth Kirkham, March 10th, 1790; 3d, Asbel, born March 25th, 1765. The children of Elisha and Ruth Field were—1st, Clarissa, born Dec. 26th, 1790; 2d, Orrin, born June 12th, 1792; 3d, Luman, born March 28th, 1794; 4th, Norman, born in 1800.

vating some land in the vicinity; but on the 12th of May, 1789, his father sold to him and his brother, Ashbel, the grist-mill and twenty-seven acres and forty-nine rods of land, and the two brothers, having a joint interest in the property, labored together till the death of Ashbel, about the year 1793, when Ebenezer bought his brother's share of the property. In 1795, he sold the mill and other real estate to John Penfield, and May 4th, 1802, bought the Morse farm—so called—of Robert Brown and Peter Ludlow. This farm at that time consisted of one hundred and forty acres, and included the land now owned by Capen Leonard and William P. Ward. The house into which Mr. Hopkins moved, stood on the east side of the road and about twenty-five rods north of the present residence of Mr. Leonard.

Joshua Morse came here this year. He was from Watertown, Conn., and purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land which included the third-division lot of the right of Joshua Arms, and the same which had been purchased by and surveyed to Gideon Cooley. The deed from Cooley to Morse bears date Feb. 23d, 1783, and covers the land now owned by Capen Leonard, William P. Ward and Mrs. Fargo. He built a log house about fifty rods in a northeasterly direction from the house now owned by Mr. Leonard, and into this he moved his family the following summer. A few years later he built a frame house several rods west of this and near the road. He occupied this house till March 17th, 1792, when he sold his farm to a Mr. Graham, of Ruthund, who sold it to Brown and Ludlow, and these gentlemen sold it to Ebenezer Hopkins as already stated.

Adonijah and Rufus Montague, sons of Samuel, who has been mentioned as one of the early settlers, came here from Bennington about this time. They were weavers by trade, and had been brought up to this occupation by their father, but to what extent they practiced it is not now known. Both had

served in the army, and were in the battle of Bennington. The exposures of camp life had seriously impaired the health of Adonijah, and this was never fully recovered. It is not now known where they spent the first few years of their residence here, but, quite likely, it was on the place which had been vacated by their father. August 9, 1783, Rufus bought of his brother-in-law, Jonathan Fassett, one lot, (one hundred and ten acres,) lying on Otter Creek, and north of the lot which had been owned and occupied by Roger Stevens, Jr., but now just purchased by Benjamin Stevens, Jr. This was a third-division lot of the right of Theodore Atkinson, and included the farm now owned by Orlin Smith. But Montague made no improvements on this lot. He afterwards sold it to Abraham Owen. January 22d, 1790, the brothers, Adonijah and Rufus, bought of Jonathan Fassett another lot of land which included what is now the farm owned by Abraham Potter, and divided the land, Rufus taking the north half, and Adonijah the south half, of the lot. Rufus built a house about where Mr. Potter's house now stands, and Adonijah built one on the south side of the road nearly opposite his brother's. It is evident that they had made improvements on this land, and had resided there some time before they obtained a deed of the same from Fassett, for only three days after the date of that deed, Adonijah deeded his half of the land to Adgate Lothrop, and the deed of conveyance describes it as "the land said Montague's house now stands on, and bounded on the north by Rufus Montague's land he now lives on." The first year of their residence in the town was one of considerable suffering on account of the scarcity of provisions. The young men had been in the army, agriculture had been neglected, and the stock of provisions was scarcely sufficient for the families that had for some time resided here, so that those who came into the town immediately after the war, were obliged for a time to look elsewhere for their daily supply. Adonijah, being in feeble health, could hardly

provide for his family, and more than once did their provisions run so low that Mrs. Montague was compelled—her husband not being able—to go to Bennington, about sixty miles, on horseback, guided some part of the distance by marked trees, over hills, through valleys and across streams, in many instances without bridges, to procure flour with which to relieve their urgent necessities. Adonijah went from Pittsford to Pawlet, where he resided several years, and then moved to Cambridge, where he died. Rufus also spent the last of his days in Cambridge and died there.

Justus Brewster, from Coventry, Conn., came here this year, and built a log house near where Charles Stiles' house now stands. This was a second-division lot of the right of Ashbel Stiles, and was purchased of Eleazer Davis, the deed bearing date December 28, 1782. It is supposed that he removed his family here in the fall.

The Brown family came from Connecticut. Elijah Brown, of Coventry, married Lydia Garry of Senners, Feb. 12th, 1755, and had the following children, born in Coventry:

Elijah, born March 28, 1756.

Abraham, born March 11, 1758, and died the 24th of the same month.

Bethiah, born June 3, 1759, and died July 30, 1760.

Eli, born Dec. 8, 1760.

James, born Dec. 24, 1762.

Noah, born April 2, 1765.

Ephraim, born June 20, 1767.

Allen, born Aug. 29, 1769.

Elisha, born Dec. 31, 1771.

Cyrenius, born April 30, 1774.*

Elijah Brown, Jr., above mentioned, married Sarah Adams of Coventry, and their eldest child, Sarah, was born in that town January 16, 1779. The following year they removed to

* Coventry Records.

Rutland, Vt., where their second child, Elijah, was born, April 15, 1781. The time when they came to Pittsford, and the exact place where they first located here, are not now known, but their third child, Oliver, was born here, Dec. 23d, 1783. It is possible that he made his first improvements and built a house where he was afterwards known to have lived, on the plat of ground some sixty rods east of the present residence of Tomas Chaffee; if so, he probably did it on the strength of the promise of a deed of the land from Elisha Rich, which was not executed till May 21, 1784. This deed covered two hundred and twenty acres of land which was bounded as follows, viz.: "Beginning at a hemlock tree standing on the east line of Pittsford, two rods north of what is called Mill River, thence west 20° South to a beech tree, thence east 20° North 160 to a stake in the town line, thence north 20° West on the town line 200 rods to the first bounds, to the original right of Elihu Hall." The consideration was £82 10s. L. M.

David Starks was the son of Zephaniah who was born in England, came to America when a young man, married Martha Edgerton of Conn., and located in that state. They had two children, David and Emilee, born in Connecticut. The father died on the voyage to Nova Scotia; the mother died in Nova Scotia. David, born in 1765, bought one hundred and ten acres of land in Pittsford in 1783, which land included the farm now owned by Hawkins Hart. He made a clearing, built a house, and married Jennie,* daughter of Stephen Mead of Pittsford, in 1785. Mr. Starks died in this town in 1805; Mrs. Starks died in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1834.

The Adams family, consisting of the father and mother—Elisha and Sarah—and sons, Elijah, Samuel, Thomas and Elisha, and daughter Anne, John Fenn, Elias Hall and Noah Hopkins, located here in 1784.

* Jennie Mead was the first female child born in Manchester (1767).

Elisha Adams married Sarah Taylor, but where he first located we are not informed. "He bought land of the agents of the Governor of the colony of Connecticut, located in Coventry, on the 2d day of June, 1771." He "leased a small farm in Coventry, Nov. 30th, 1771." He "sold and conveyed land in Coventry, Feb. 17th, 1774." He "bought land in Coventry of Samuel Ladd, Aug. 29th, 1778." "Thomas and Elisha Adams sold and conveyed land in Coventry, Aug. 29th, 1778. Elisha Adams sold land in Coventry, April 29th, 1779."^{*}

The following is the record of Elisha Adams' family:

Elisha Adams, 2d, born Dec. 1, 1757, and died the 28th of April.

Sarah Adams, born May 30, 1759.

Elisha Adams, 3d, born March 14, 1762, and died May 9, 1773.

Elijah Adams, born October 9, 1764.

Samuel Adams, born March 23, 1767.

Thomas Adams, born Nov. 8, 1770.

Anne Adams, born May 8, 1772, and died August 5th, the same year.

Anne Adams, 2d, born May 1, 1775.

Elisha Adams, 4th, born May 19, 1778.

The above were all born in Connecticut."

Whether this family came directly from Coventry to Pittsford, or stopped by the way as did the Brown family, we have no means of knowing. Their earliest deed of land in the township of which a record exists, was one of one hundred and ten acres, from Elisha Rich to Thomas and Samuel Adams, and is dated May 21, 1784. As will be seen, the former was seventeen and the latter a little more than thirteen years of age. The boundaries of this lot were marked by perishable objects,

^{*} Coventry Records.

no vestige of which now exists, consequently it is impossible to fix its exact limits, but it is known to have been on or near East Branch brook, and to have included a part of the high land east of Furnace Flat. As no mention is made of the mill in this deed, and as it is known that Elisha Adams, the father, owned this a few months later, it is highly probable that he purchased this with some land in the vicinity in his own name, but the deed was never recorded. Not long after he purchased the grist-mill, he built a saw-mill a few rods below it, and both were kept in operation some years by some member or members of the Adams family. They first moved into the house built by Elisha Rich, but they soon constructed another log house, on the hill, about six rods west of the present residence of Mrs. Curran. Elijah Adams married Ruth, daughter of Elder E. Rich, and resided some years on the farm which has been mentioned as first improved by Abraham Owen, Sen., (O. Smith place,) then occupied for a few years the farm which had been improved by Richard Hendee, (Willis place,) but finally moved to Buffalo, N. Y. "He was highly respected, had a large family, and for the last twenty years of his life, was unable to labor, being nearly blind."*

Samuel Adams married Polly Baird, and resided for a time with his parents in the log house on the hill, east of Furnace Flat, but afterwards built the red house, now owned by A. G. Allen, and this, then became the home of himself and parents. Elisha, the father, for the last few years of his life, was blind.

Thomas Adams married Polly Cole,† and located on the farm now owned by his son, Elias T. Adams, and built the easterly part of the present house about the year 1792. He took that farm in a state of nature, and the most of the improvements on it are due to his labors.

Elisha Adams, 4th, married Stella, daughter of Oliver Bogue,

* Hendee's MS.

† Miss Cole was born in Woodbury, Ct.

resided a few years in the village and kept a store in company with John Merriam, but afterwards left town.

John Fenn of Waterbury, Conn., bought of Gideon Cooley one hundred and seven acres of land, eighty-six of which were on the right of Elhanan Fox, and twenty-one on the right of Daniel Dreggs, the deed bearing date Feb. 7, 1784. This included the most of the farm now owned by Fobes Manley, but it was then an unbroken forest. Mr. Fenn and his sons cleared a few acres and built a house near where the present house stands, and the farm was occupied by the family or some members of it, till it was sold to John Hitchcock, Jr.

Elias Hall was born in Southington, Conn., but the year is not given. In the French war he enlisted in the army of Lord Amherst, at Hartford, and was assigned to the regiment commanded by Col. Whiting. He was on duty at Ticonderoga and Crown Point till the fall of 1759, when he was taken sick with rheumatism and had permission to return home. After the war he married Sarah Hitchcock and located in New Cheshire, New Haven County, Conn. On the second day of May, 1783, he purchased* of Gideon Cooley thirty-three acres of land in Pittsford, which included what is now known as the Joshua Bates place. He built a house some forty or fifty rods west of the present house and near the old military road, and removed his family here in the spring of 1784. About the year 1795, he sold this place and resided a few years in the house which then stood about where the Baptist meeting house now stands. He removed to Williston where he died October 29, 1820; Mrs. Hall died in 1815.

Noah Hopkins was a cousin of Nehemiah, his father being a brother of Ebenezer, Sen., one of the early settlers who has been mentioned. He was born about the year 1745, but we are not informed of the place of his birth or marriage, though he resided for a time, at least, in Nine Partners, Dutchess Co.,

* This deed was made out in the name of Sarah Hall, wife of Elias.

N. Y., where his sons, Hiram,* Noah, Jr., and Samuel were born. He came to Pittsford, probably, through the influence of his relatives, and purchased the real estate which had belonged to his uncle, then deceased. The deed of this purchase was never recorded and we have no means of knowing its date.

Among the number who located here in 1785, were Richard Hendee, John Hitchcock and son John, Israel Lake, Thomas Hammond, Daniel Stevens, James Stevens, and Samuel Waters, Jr.

Richard Hendee was a son of Jonathan, and brother of Deacon Caleb, both of whom have been mentioned. He married Hannah Parsons, of Windsor, Conn., where he resided some years, and then moved to Shaftsbury, Vt., from which town he came to Pittsford in 1785, and located on a lot† of land upon which a little improvement had been made by a man named Wright. When he came here his property consisted of a few hundred dollars in Continental money which had so depreciated that it was of little value, and to assist him to begin the world anew financially, his brother Caleb gave him this lot of land. In raising a barn for Capt. Milton Potter in 1797, Mr. Hendee fell from the frame and was instantly killed. He was about six feet high, well proportioned, though not fleshy, and weighed one hundred and eighty pounds. He left a widow and eight children, the former of whom afterwards married David June of Brandon, where she resided till his death, and then went to the western part of the State of New York to live with her children. The eldest son, Richard, married Phoebe, daughter of Capt. Nathaniel Rich of Shoreham, resided some years on the homestead, and then moved to Ticonderoga.‡

John Hitchcock, a tanner by trade, was a native of Con-

* Hiram Hopkins was born January 16, 1772.

† The farm now owned by N. Willis.

‡ Hendee's MS.

necticut, where the most of his early life was spent. He married Abigail Chapman and located in Saybrook, where were born the following children, viz.: John, Remembrance, Joseph, Chapman, Benjamin, Abigail, Lydia and Anna. About the year 1780, he removed from Saybrook to Surry, N. H., where he resided till 1785, when he bought of Samuel Drury, said to be of Alstead, N. H., one right of land, *minus* one hundred and ten acres, in Pittsford, the deed being dated the 10th of May, and it was in consideration of £16 L. M. He pitched one hundred and ten acres of this right—the third-division lot of the right of Jedediah Winslow—on the northwest slope of what has since been known as “Corn Hill.” It covered the farm now owned by Amos C. Kellogg. This he deeded to his son John, May 23, 1785, and then purchased the lot forming the farm now owned by his grandson Capt. Charles Hitchcock. He assisted his son in clearing the land and building a house on the side of the hill some eighty rods east of the present residence of Mr. A. C. Kellogg, and they transplanted an orchard near the house, some of the trees of which are still standing. At that time the road leading north from Joshua Morse’s, passed some rods west of the present road, and on through land owned by Amos Kellogg, and a branch of it crossed Sucker Brook a few rods below the saw-mill. The family came here as soon as comfortable quarters could be prepared, and it is evident that they resided here together for a time, or until a small clearing and a house could be made on the other lot where Capt. Charles Hitchcock now lives; and then the father and other members of the family removed to the latter place, while the eldest son, John, who had married Hannah Weed, remained on the former place of which he had a deed.

In 1784, John Hitchcock, Sen., and Amos Kellogg exchanged farms for one year, though they never exchanged deeds. While Mr. Hitchcock was residing on the Kellogg farm, the house he

occupied took fire and was consumed with all its contents, furniture and provisions. But with the assistance of his sons he soon had a new house, and at the expiration of the year he and Mr. Kellogg re-exchanged locations, each occupying his own land.

Of the ancestry of Israel Lake no information has been obtained. That he became a resident of this town in 1785, the records conclusively show, though we are unable to learn from whence he came. He purchased of Caleb Hendee fifty-five acres of land—a part of the right of Alexander Scott—for which he paid £6, L. M., and the deed was dated "June 8th, in the 9th year of American Independence 1785." This appears to have been located west of Richard Hendee's lot; and about the same time Mr. Lake pitched fifty acres more of the same right bordering on the west bank of Otter Creek. This probably included the land upon which Pittsford Quarry Co.'s depot now stands. He built a house about one hundred rods in a northwesterly direction from the residence of Richard Hendee, and perhaps occupied it alone for a time, as the record states that "Israel Lake and Hannah June were married to each other the tenth day of May, 1787."

Thomas Hammond was born in Newton, Mass., Feb. 20, 1762, and at the age of four years, was taken from his parents and carried* to Leicester, where he was bound to a farmer by the name of Denny and remained there the most of the following sixteen years. In 1778, he enlisted in the Continental army, and was stationed some months at West Point, where he served as fifth corporal, a position of which, as he used to say, he felt prouder, than of any he ever afterward held. He served but nine months in the army and then returned to Leicester. In 1782, he came to Shaftsbury, Bennington County, Vt., and married Hannah, daughter of Ichabod Cross, March 25, 1784.

* He rode horseback behind a man, forty miles the first day.

The following year his father-in-law* gave him one hundred and ten acres of land in Pittsford which lay south of and adjoining the lot owned by William Cox.† He built a small house about twelve rods south of the Cox fort—Fort Mott—just across the ravine, and resided there three or four years, then cleared the land and built a house in what is now the southeast corner of the field on the west side of the road and about fifteen rods north of the brook on the town farm. This was a frame house, clapboarded and shingled, and was used some years as a tavern. After residing here some seven years he built a house a few rods north of the present house on the town farm, and in this he resided till 1814, when he bought of Isaac and James Matson the farm now owned by Isaac C. Wheaton. The large house on that farm was built by Col. Hammond, in 1814. During the early years of his residence here, as also later, he kept a large flock of sheep, and the wolves sometimes made sad havoc among them. During one night they killed thirty and another night forty.

Daniel Stevens, eldest son of Benjamin, Sen., married Mary Rowe, of Manchester, but where he first located is not now known, though in 1793, he purchased the farm then owned by his brother Benjamin Stevens, Jr., and the same that is now owned by his grandson, Benjamin Stevens, 3d. He built a house on the east side of the road and about twelve rods northeast of the one which had been the residence of his brother. He resided here till his death, June 1st, 1829.

* Ichabod Cross was born in Mansfield, Conn., but was one of the early settlers of Shaftsbury, Vt., was in the battle of Hubbardton, and as our forces were scattered he was taken prisoner by some Indians. As our soldiers were retreating, he stopped at a spring to drink, and a wounded soldier lying near, he dipped up some water in his hat and passed it to his dying comrade. While in this act, four Indians rushed up and seized him, carrying him off, one holding each arm, one forward and another behind him, with their guns, and in this way they proceeded till they came to a thick growth of trees, when he threw up his arms and, freeing himself from their grasp, sprang into the woods. The Indians stood amazed, and attempted neither to pursue nor shoot him. He ran some distance, and then divested himself of the most of his clothing which he put under a log, in order to weaken their hold of him should they attempt to seize him again. He made good his escape, and after the war returned home where he died Feb. 8, 1827, aged ninety years and some months.

† The deed bears date Dec. 21, 1785.

James Stevens, also a son of Benjamin, on the 1st of May, 1784, pitched one hundred acres of land adjoining the north-east part of Gideon Sheldon's land. This was a second-division lot of the right of Daniel McFarland, and included the westerly part of what is now known as the "Bresee farm," owned by Benjamin Stevens, 3d. He cleared the land on the south slope of the hill, and built a house and barn about ten rods west of the brook, and about the same distance north of the east-and-west road. Some vestiges of these buildings may still be seen in the pasture. He married —— Douglas, and resided here from 1785 to 1794, when he sold his real estate in Pittsford, and removed to Upper Canada.

Samuel Waters, Jr., the eldest son of Samuel Waters, married and settled on the farm now owned by Marshall Howland in Whipple Hollow. He purchased that lot of his father in 1783, made the first improvements on it and resided some years in a log house which stood on the east side of the road near where Mr. Howland's barn now stands. His wife died, and he afterwards married Prudence Moses.

The following persons are known to have located in the township in 1786, viz.: Jacob Weed, Jeremiah Powers, Simeon Stevens, Remond Allen, Lot Keeler, Israel Ellsworth, Abraham Owen, Nathan Webster, Amos Webster, William Orcutt, Jeremiah Sheldon and Samuel Sheldon.

Jacob Weed was from Lanesboro, Mass., where he married Sarah Kittersfield of that town, and had the following children, viz.: Anna, John and Mercy. He bought one lot (one hundred and ten acres) of land of Stephen Jenner, June 21, 1786. This was a second-division lot of the right of William Nutting, and included a part of the farm now owned by Cyrus Dike and the land adjoining on the south, now owned by Seba F. Smith. He made a clearing and built a house immediately south of the brook on the west side of the road about where a house now stands, and to this he removed his family.

Jeremiah Powers was the son of Jeremiah, of Greenwich, Mass., who was the third generation from the early settler of this name in that township, and who was originally from Ireland. Jeremiah, 3d, married Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Cooley, of Greenwich, and resided some years in that township where the following children were born, viz.: Jeremiah, Justus, Joab, Charles, George, Prudence, Montgomery and Gardner. The eldest son, Jeremiah, born in 1760, at the age of sixteen years enlisted in the army and served as a soldier, during a part of the Revolutionary war. After the war he was employed to assist in the survey of the township of Leicester, Addison County, Vt., and he purchased nine hundred acres in that township. But by mistakes in the early surveys only about two-thirds of the township were ever obtained, and from this circumstance Mr. Powers lost his title, and came to Pittsford, where he purchased of Gideon Cooley one hundred acres, for which he paid £100, the deed bearing date Oct. 15, 1785. This included the place now owned by E. M. Bailey, and the land extending southward upon the north slope of the hill, and adjoining Amasa Ladd's on the east. He built a house and barn on the south side of the Crown Point or military road, and about one hundred rods south of the house now owned by Mr. Bailey. To this place he removed his family in the spring of 1786. This house, built of logs, was occupied till 1804, when Mr. Powers built the house where Mr. Bailey now resides. Into this he removed his family, and died here in February, 1845, aged eighty-five years.

Simeon Stevens purchased one hundred acres of land of his father, Benjamin Stevens. The deed, dated Oct. 12, 1785, included the lot eastward of and adjoining the homestead. He built a house on the high land about one-fourth of a mile east of his father's residence, and the following year married Anna Martin, of Shaftsbury, and at once occupied this house. After

residing here sixty-one years, he died Sept. 2d, 1847, aged eighty-four years.

The first we hear of Renben Allen is on the 21st of October, 1784, at which time the Proprietors' Collector sold land belonging to fifteen of the grantees, for the payment of a two-penny land tax, voted to be raised for the building of bridges. This land was sold by auction, and Allen bid off fifty-seven acres belonging to the right of Daniel Thomas, for which he paid £1 16s. This was located in the westerly part of the town, and included the farm lately owned by Augustus Bailey, but now by Nathaniel Willis. He built a log house about where the present house stands, and made the first improvements on that farm. He resided there a few years and then sold the place to one Gilbert, and after residing a short time on the farm now owned by Alexander Parmelee, he moved to Whipple Hollow.

Lot Keeler was born in Ridgefield, Conn., June 7, 1752, and accompanied his parents to Lenox, Mass., whither they removed when he was a small boy. At the age of eighteen he came to Rutland, and let himself to work at seven dollars and fifty cents per month. From Rutland he came to Pittsford and worked for Amasa Ladd some time; and by industry and economy he accumulated a little money which he invested in land. He made his first purchase of Jonathan Fussett, May 21, 1786, and this consisted of twenty-seven and one-half acres, including the homestead now owned by his son, Lot Keeler, Jr. Additional land was afterwards bought so that he eventually owned a good farm and of ample dimensions. He commenced a clearing near where the present buildings stand, and the first summer he spent here he had no shelter except the trunk of a huge pine tree, the centre of which had been burnt out, with an opening on the west side sufficiently large for a person to walk through into the center of it. He built a log house which

occupied the same ground that is now occupied by the north part of the present house, married Catharine Goodnough, of Brandon, and commenced housekeeping. Not having sufficient provisions and comfortable quarters here, they went to Lenox in the fall and spent the winter with his father, and there, by his labor, he earned enough to buy two yearling heifers which he drove to Pittsford in the spring, and from these he stocked his farm. He is said to have been a man of extraordinary courage and physical power, which will appear from the following anecdote: One of the citizens of the town had committed a crime against the laws of the State, for which the sheriff of the county had orders to arrest and bring him before the court. But the criminal armed himself, retired to a camp near Otter Creek, refused to be arrested and threatened to shoot any man who should attempt to take him. At one May training, as Capt. Caleb Cooley had his company on parade, the sheriff rode up to the Captain and requested him to select four of the most resolute men in his company for his service. "For what purpose do you wish to employ them," said the Captain. "I have orders," said the sheriff, "to arrest _____* and bring him before the court, dead or alive, but he has armed himself, retired to a camp and refuses to be arrested, and I want these men to take him." The Captain turned to his company and said, "Justus Brewster, Lot Keeler, _____ and _____,† march to the front." The order was obeyed and the four men accompanied the sheriff to the camp of the criminal who, seeing their determined demeanor, and probably considering prudence the better part of valor, concluded to surrender; and he was immediately bound and taken before the court.

Israel Ellsworth, youngest son of Samuel, married Hopstil, daughter of Benjamin Stevens, and located on a small lot of land, afterward included in the Beals farm—now owned by

* For obvious reasons the name is withheld.

† The names of the last two men are forgotten.

John Eggleston. The log house stood in the lot, in a northwesterly direction from the Beals house, and on the east side of the road leading from Joseph Wolcott's to William Wing's. The cellar of the house is still to be seen about eighty rods southeast of the residence of Mr. Wing. "After residing here a few years they removed into the State of Pennsylvania, and while there he disappeared strangely; his wife came back and said her husband, in a fit of insanity, went into the woods and was never seen afterwards. Many hearsay stories were told and suspicions entertained. His wife married again a Mr. Patterson, with whom she lived some years, and then he left her; after this she married a Mr. Willard Leaton with whom she lived some years, and they were pretty well matched, both bad enough, but he at length left her, and she afterwards went into Upper Canada, and there married for the fourth time, but has now been dead some years.

Israel Ellsworth, her first husband, who so strangely disappeared from Pennsylvania, it was afterwards ascertained, went to Virginia and settled in Fairfax County, where he married a woman by the name of Ann Bennett, by whom he had the following children, viz.: 1st, Elizabeth, who married a man by the name of Chappel; 2d, Samuel; 3d, Amy, who married a man by the name of George P. Poole; 4th, Israel E. Holida; he there had gone by the name of Israel Ellsworth Holida, his mother's maiden name being Holida. He had applied for and obtained a pension, and this was the way his friends at the north heard from him.*"

Abraham Owen, second son of Edward, married Nelly, widow of William Bogue, but where they resided the first few months after their marriage we are not informed. On the 7th of June, 1787, Mr. Owen bought of Rufus Montague fifty-five acres, embracing the easterly portion of the farm now owned by Orlin Smith. He built a log house a few rods southeast of

*Hendee's MS.

the present house, in what is now the northwest corner of the field on the east side of the road. The roof of this house was covered with elm bark, and the floor was made of basswood logs, split, and laid with their flat surface up. Afterwards he built another log house near where the present house stands, lived in this about two years, and then bought that part of the farm recently owned by Edwin Wheaton, which lies on the west side of the hill towards Abel Morgan's. There he built a house in which he resided about seven years, and then bought the Mosher place and built the house now owned by Richard and Charles Burditt in 1811, and died there Feb. 14, 1813. The house built on the Wheaton lot was removed to the latter place and is now the horse-barn on the west side of the road.

We have no knowledge of the ancestors of Nathan Webster, but his name appears upon the records for the first time in 1785, on the 14th of October of which year, he purchased of Jonathan Fassett twelve acres of land, a part of the first-division lot of the right of Elihu Hall, and bounded as follows, viz.: "Beginning at stake and stones at the northeast corner of Ebenezer Hopkins' home lot; thence east five degrees south 32 rods to stake and stones; thence north ten degrees east 50 rods to the south side of the road that leads to the mills; thence west on the south line of said road till it strikes the east line of the road that runs north and south through the town, being about 45 rods to stake and stones; thence south on the east line of the road to the first bounds." The consideration of the deed was £40. It will be seen that this purchase included the site of the present hotel owned by L. F. Scofield, together with land now owned by Bradley Burditt, D. Austin, B. Kemp, R. R. Drake, and J. A. Randall. He cleared the land and built a house where the hotel now stands, and it is supposed that he removed his family here in the spring of 1786. The ground now occupied by the Village was then covered with the native forest, with here and there an undergrowth of blackberry

bushes which at the usual season yielded an abundant supply of berries, from which circumstance the ground was known as "Blackberry Hill." The house built by Mr. Webster was the commencement of the village.*

Amos Webster is supposed to have been a brother of Nathan, and from the records we learn that he was from Bennington, but quite likely his residence there was temporary. On the 7th of November, 1785, he purchased of Jonathan Fassett a tract of land in this town, the bounds of which are thus described: "Beginning about 17½ rods from the northeast corner of the old grist-mill lot, westerly in the north line of the same at a stake and stones; thence north ten degrees east 38 rods to stake and stones; thence east five degrees south 22½ rods to the pine lots and stake and stones; thence north ten degrees east 50 rods to elm tree; thence north fifty-two degrees west 33 rods to a birch tree; thence west 16 rods to a birch tree; thence north 30 rods to a stake and stones; thence west 52 rods to a pine tree; thence south fifteen degrees east 81 rods to a beech tree; thence west fifteen degrees south 69 rods on the south line of the Town Plot to the road, a stake and stones; thence on the east side of the road south sixteen degrees east 27 rods to stake and stones; thence east five degrees south about 97 rods to the first bounds."

It thus appears that this purchase included all the land now in the Village east of the north-and-south road, between the Town Hall lot and the road leading to Hitchcockville, together with lands lying eastward and now owned by S. D. Winslow, John Leonard and Charles Walker, and the whole was separated from the lot purchased by Nathan Webster by the east-and-west road. He built a house the following spring about where Willard Randell's south house now stands, and this was probably the third house built on "Blackberry Hill," and

* Only one house had been built on "Blackberry Hill" at this time, and this was the one built about thirty rods west of the present village by Amos Fassett.

for years afterwards it was known as the "Webster house."

William Oreutt, from Stafford, Conn., came here in 1786, and made the first improvements on the place now owned by Charles T. Colburn. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and during the latter part of it, held a captain's commission. He married a lady of French descent and resided some years in Stafford before coming to Pittsford. He resided in this town only a few years.

Jeremiah Sheldon, son of Gideon, married and located on the Waters place—now Abel Morgan's. He purchased this of Samuel Waters who had left it during the war, removed to Shaftsbury, and being advanced in years decided to remain in that town. Mr. Sheldon built a log house a few rods west of the present house, and occupied it till about the year 1800, when he sold his real estate to Abraham Owen and moved to Canada.

Samuel Sheldon, brother of the preceding, married and resided in the house with him till 1795, when he removed to Canada.

Among the number who located here in 1787, were Reuben Ives, Simeon Parmelee, Jonathan Stevens, Josiah Eddy, the Jackson family, Anthony Phillips, Hopkins Rowley, Nehemiah Hopkins, Jr., John Hopkins and Simon Harwood.

Reuben Ives was a native of Massachusetts, but came to Pittsford in 1786, and on the 13th of June of that year bought one hundred and ten acres of land—a part of the original right of Elisha Harvey—of Richard Hendee for which he paid £45. This included the land now owned by Mrs. Sarah Adams, Charles Smith and Arba Bassett. He cleared the land and built a house near where Mrs. Adams' house stands and removed here in the spring of 1787.

Simeon Parmelee was the son of Hezekiah who was born in Connecticut, married and settled in Durham in that State

where both died. Their children were Simeon, Hezekiah, Moses, Dan, Charles and two daughters.

Simeon was born in Durham, 1741, and married (1775) Tryphem Smith, who was born in 1755. They settled in West Stockbridge, Mass. At the commencement of the Revolutionary war he enlisted in the American army and was with the expedition against Quebec in 1775. While in Canada he had the small pox, with which he came near losing his life, but after much suffering he was brought to Ticonderoga, where his father-in-law, Nehemiah Hopkins, met him and brought him through the wilderness to Pittsford. Here he remained till he recovered his strength so as to be able to ride to Stockbridge. Mr. Parmelee removed from West Stockbridge to Pittsford in March, 1787, and on the 27th of January, 1792,* he bought two hundred and twenty acres of land of Thomas Cranfield for which he paid £160. This was a part of the original right of William Stewart and included the farm now owned by Seba F. Smith with some land adjoining. He made the first improvements on that farm and built the first house which stood on the east side of the road and only a few rods south of Mr. Smith's barn. After residing here some years they removed to Westford, where Mr. Parmelee died May 3d, 1820; Mrs. Parmelee died May 14th, 1831.

Jonathan Stevens, son of Benjamin, the early settler, was born at Nine Partners, Dutchess County, N. Y., and came to this town with his father's family before the war. February 13th, 1787, he bought of Joseph Crary fifty acres† of land which included the south part of the farm now owned by William Wing, and he made the first improvements on that farm. The first clearing was made some distance south of the present buildings, and in what is now the pasture owned by

* This is the date of the deed, but it is known that Mr. Parmelee built the house and settled on this land when he first moved into the town, and quite likely he took a bond for a deed at that time.

† This was a part of the third-division lot of the right of Samuel Mansfield.

John M. Goodnough. He built a house about fifteen rods west of the road, the cellar of which is still to be seen, married Lucy, daughter of Richard Adams, and resided here some years, but eventually moved to the township of Bastard, Upper Canada, where he died at the age of about eighty years.

The first we hear of Josiah Eddy is in 1782, on the 6th of July, when he pitched fifty acres of land in Pittsford, bounded as follows: "Beginning at a small dry beech which is the northeast corner of Edward Owen's lot; then south by the needle 110 rods to a beech sapling; then due east 80 rods to a hemlock stake and stones; then north by the needle 110 rods to a maple marked; then on the Widow Woodward's south line due west 80 rods to the first bounds. Surveyed to the original right of Samuel Brewer, it being the third-division pitch." Again on the 30th of October, 1785, he pitched fifteen acres more adjoining Simeon Tupper's fifty-five acre lot on the east, but he made no improvements on either of these pitches till about the year 1786, when he cleared a few acres of the first lot which, as will be seen, included the most of the farm now owned by John Hudson. He built a house near where Mr. Hudson's house now stands, married Ursula, daughter of Edward Owen, and commenced housekeeping the following spring.

The Jackson family was from Spencer, Massachusetts. David Jackson married Hannah Graton and resided some years in Spencer, where the following children were born, viz.: David, Jonathan, James, William, Samuel and Daniel. David, the father, died in Spencer, and the sons having grown to manhood sought the wild lands of Vermont. David, the eldest son, bought fifty acres of land, a part of the right of George Robbins, Dec. 5, 1786. This land was bounded south on the north line of Rutland, and he also purchased a lot within the township of Rutland, adjoining his Pittsford lot on the north, and built a house but a few rods south of the town line, married

Persis, daughter of Benjamin Whipple of Rutland, and resided some years within the limits of that township. He enlisted in the army in the war of 1812-14, and died on the road as he was returning home from Plattsburgh.

Jonathan married —— Morgan, in Spencerville, some time before coming to Pittsford. Whether he came here with the other members of the family we are not informed, but he bought of Benjamin Smalley one-half of a right of land in this town—the right of Joseph Burton—for which he paid £50, and the deed bears date Nov. 22, 1788. This purchase included the farm now owned by Hiram Bates, and the first improvements on that farm were made by Mr. Jackson. He lived and died there.

James married Margaret, daughter of Jeremiah Wood of Pittsford, and located on land now owned by Whipple Mills, about fifty rods west of the present residence of Samuel Butler. He built a house and resided there till after the death of his wife, when he went to Pennsylvania and died there.

William was accidentally killed.

Samuel unmarried—1st, Relief, daughter of Aaron and Sarah Smith, and resided some years on the same farm with his brother James. His wife, Relief, died and he married—2d, Mrs. Betsey, widow of Nathaniel Fairfield, and daughter of Gideon Sheldon, Sen. A short time before the war of 1812, he sold his real estate in Pittsford, removed to Canada and died in the British military service. His son Samuel was with him in the same service against the United States, and while on duty near the Canada line, he deserted from the British and came to visit his uncles in Pittsford, where he remained till after the close of the war and then returned to Canada.

Daniel married Catharine Ratz, made the first clearing, built a house, and resided on the farm now owned by Samuel Butler.

Mrs. Jackson, the mother, resided some years in a log house

which stood on the east side of the road, some six or eight rods north of the house now owned by Whipple Mills, but died in the family of her son Daniel.

Anthony Phillips was from Massachusetts, where he married and resided some years. He came to Pittsford in the winter of 1787, and purchased of John Barnes one hundred acres of land—third-division lot of the right of Timothy Patterson—the deed being dated Feb. 7th of that year, and it was in consideration of £100. This lot included the most of the farm now owned by his grandson Orrin Phillips. Having made a small clearing and constructed a temporary house, he removed his family here the following spring, and with the assistance of his sons soon brought several acres of land into a state of cultivation.

Hopkins Rowley was the eldest son of Jonathan of whom some account has been given. He purchased a part of his father's farm and built a small house on the west side of the road* about two rods southwest of his father's residence. He married† and resided there some years, and then moved to Shoreham.

Nehemiah Hopkins, son of the Nehemiah who has been mentioned, built a house on land given to him by his father on the north side of the road, and a few rods east of the mouth of Ripley Brook.‡ He married —— Durphy and resided here some years, afterwards lived for a short period in a house which stood about where L. Woolson's house now stands, then moved into a house which stood a few rods west of the present residence of H. F. Lothrop, Esq. He was a man of considerable business capacity and served as constable for several years. He moved to the State of New York.

John Hopkins, son of Elias, was never a large real estate

*The road at that time passed between these two houses.

†We have not been able to learn anything respecting his wife.

‡We venture to call this Ripley Brook, from the fact that Phineas Ripley once owned a large proportion of the land through which it flows.

owner. He married Hannah, daughter of Stephen Mead, December 12, 1787, and resided for a time in a house which stood near where Mr. Whitaker's house now stands. He changed locations here several times and eventually left the town.

Simon Harwood, son of Rev. Eleazer, was born Aug. 23, 1766, and married Ruth, daughter of Elias Hall, April 19, 1787. He resided some years on the farm now owned by S. H. Kellogg, living in a house which he built some fifty rods south of the present house near where the road turns, leading to Mrs. Tilson's; the cellar of the house is still visible. Afterwards he bought the house now owned by Silas S. Westcott. He built and for some years occupied the house now on that place. He died on the place formerly owned by Benjamin Stevens, Sen., March 3, 1816. Mrs. Harwood died in Michigan, Oct. 18, 1838.

Among those who located here in 1788, may be mentioned Asa Stevens, Simeon Clifford, Abintha Millard, Nathaniel Fairfield and Israel Morgan.

Asa Stevens was a son of David who was born in Plainfield, Conn., in 1733, and who married Sarah Spanlding, born in the same town in 1731. They resided in Connecticut some years after their marriage and the following children were born there, viz.: 1st, Asa, born in 1756; 2d, David, Jr., born 1758, died Nov. 4, 1817; 3d, Deborah, born June 25, 1759, and died the following October; 4th, Sally, born 1761, died June 7, 1777; 5th, Phineas, born 1763, died May 2, 1766; 6th, Mary, born 1765, died in 1770.

Asa, the eldest son, married Sally Dunlap of Plainfield, Conn., and after residing there one or two years removed to Plainfield, New Hampshire, joining a small colony in that township, originally from Plainfield, Connecticut. In 1788, he removed from Plainfield, N. H., to Pittsford, Vt., and bought of Benjamin Smalley, of Middlebury, one-half of the right or

share originally belonging to Joseph Burnt. The deed bears date Nov. 22, 1788, and was in consideration of £50, L. M. This was so located as to include the farm now owned by Stephen Whipple, together with land now owned by Albert W. Fletcher and Elisha Smith. The first clearing was made where Mr. Fletcher's house now stands, and a log house was hastily constructed there, in which the family resided the following winter. After enlarging his clearing Mr. Stevens built a frame house on the same side of the road, but some ten or fifteen rods north of the log house, and in this he resided till his death, Aug. 31, 1817. Mrs. Sally Stevens died in 1833, aged seventy-seven years. They had but one child, Rachel, born May 22, 1783, in Connecticut.

Simeon Clifford was the second son of Edward, who was born in Maiden Lane, England, about the year 1747, and at the age of eighteen years came to Philadelphia as a waiter for a man by the name of Logan. How long he remained in Logan's service we are not informed; but he eventually made his way north and came to Massachusetts, married Abigail Winslow of Hardwick, a descendant of Gov. Winslow, and resided some years in that township, where were born to them four sons and three daughters; the former being named Samuel, Simeon, Edward and Calvin; the latter, Anna, Amelia and Fanny. Mr. Clifford had a weakness too common, not only to young men of that day, but to the same class of the present day, in his resolution to resist the intoxicating cup. In 1780, a recruiting party came along, gave him liquor enough to overcome him, and then got his name on the enlistment papers for the army. When he became sober enough to know what he had done he was in agony of mind. What could he do? He had a family of small children wholly dependent upon him for support. To put himself beyond the reach of the recruiting officers he fled from home and went on board a vessel which soon put to sea. He had been on the water but a short time

before the vessel was captured by a British man-of-war, and being an Englishman the captain tried to enlist him into the British service. But he peremptorily refused. America was his country, here was his family, and he would not fight against them; but he was willing to do anything for the ship or crew, and being a tailor by trade, he was employed in making and mending garments. After a time the ship in which he sailed put into the harbor of the British island Antigua, and being desirous of getting away, he asked and obtained leave to go on shore, and he was soon out of sight. But he had no means of subsistence, and after seeking employment for some time without success, he concluded to make one bold move, and, going into the office of a lawyer by the name of Lovell, he said to him: "Sir, I am a stranger in a destitute condition whom the fortune of war has cast upon this island, and you must put me into some business whereby I can earn a living." Mr. Lovell made some inquiries of him about what he could do, and told him to call again the next day, and he would let him know what could be done for him. He called according to appointment and was employed to take charge of the field hands on a plantation. How long he continued in this employment we do not know, but in process of time he was raised to the condition of manager of the plantation, with higher salary, which enabled him to accumulate some funds. He eventually invested his money in merchandise, and, joining with others, bought or chartered a vessel and sailed for New York. In passing "Hell Gate" the vessel was stranded and, losing all their property, they barely escaped with their lives. Thus suddenly perished the hope Mr. Clifford had so long cherished, of putting his family in comfortable circumstances, but he found them alive and his return was a joyful surprise as they had long supposed him to be dead.*

* The family had worn the usual symbols of mourning and laid them aside, and had Mr. Clifford remained away a few weeks longer, Mrs. Clifford would have changed her name.

Samuel, the eldest son, married and settled in Hardwick. Simeon married Susan Martin, came to Pittsford in 1788, and bought of John Rhodes one hundred acres of land, a third-division lot of the right of Abraham Morton, the deed being dated May 1st, and it was in consideration of £50. This purchase included the farm recently owned by the late Orville Spencer, and at that time was wholly in a state of nature. Mr. Clifford made a small clearing and built a house on the south side of the road nearly opposite the present house.

Edward, Jr., at the age of seventeen years, having given some attention to the study of navigation, commenced following the seas, a business which he prosecuted two or three years, and was promoted to the rank of second mate; but through the importunity of his friends he left the sea, married Rachel Rich, of Enfield, Mass., in 1791, came to Pittsford in 1793, and occupied the Graham house which stood in the Village where J. A. Randall's house now stands. March 10, 1799, he bought of his brother Simeon forty-five acres of land which included the farm now owned by the Pittsford Quarry Co. He made the first improvements on that farm and resided there till 1845, when he moved to Parma, Michigan. The house now on the farm was built by Mr. Clifford in 1814.

Soon after the two sons located here, Edward, Sen., the father, and the mother came, accompanied by the youngest son, Calvin. These occupied the house which had been built for them by Simeon, on the easterly slope of the hill about twenty-five rods west of his house. They resided there till 1812, when Simeon sold his farm in Pittsford to William Allen, and moved to Brandon, taking his aged parents with him.

We have alluded to the pernicious habit which Edward, the father, had when a young man, of using intoxicating drinks and of his being under the influence of these when he signed the enlistment papers to enter the army, which led to his flight from home and the serious results that followed. But it is due

to him to say that after his return to his family, he made a solemn vow that he would never again touch intoxicating drinks, a vow which he religiously kept, thus setting an example worthy to be imitated by all addicted to similar habits.

The Millard family is of Welsh descent, and some members of it resided for a time in Warwick, R. I. Dr. Abithar Millard (as he spelled his name) was born June 22, 1744, at Rehoboth, Massachusetts. He married Tabitha Hopkins, who was born Oct. 16, 1745, daughter of Ebenezer Hopkins of Hurlwinton, Conn., afterwards of Pittsford, Vt. Soon after their marriage they went to reside in Dutchess Co., N. Y., where their first child, Abithar, was born, May 6, 1763. Tabitha was born March 4, 1765; Lydia, Oct. 14, 1768; Huldah, March 5, 1773; Sarah, January 18, 1775; Olive, May 5, 1778; Phœbe, Aug. 12, 1781; Jesse, Oct. 6, 1784; Almon II., April 19, 1788. With the exception of the first, the record does not state where the above children were born.

It is evident that Dr. Millard located in Pittsford in the spring of 1788. His first purchase of real estate in this town was "one certain acre lot of land in the Town Plot, viz.: Lot No. 56 drawn in favor of Abraham Morton, original proprietor." The deed bears date April 11, 1788, and was in consideration of twenty shillings. He soon after purchased Lot No. 9, of the Town Plot, or what is now the southwest corner of the lot owned by C. A. Hitchcock, being nearly identical with the garden west of the present house. He cleared this lot and built upon it a house which was probably the fourth then standing on "Blackberry Hill." The house was a small one hastily constructed; and it was occupied as soon as it was completed, and the youngest child, Solomon Eddy, was born here Feb. 17, 1789.

Nathaniel Fairfield was from Plainfield, N. H., though he was probably one of the colony from Connecticut that settled in that township. He purchased of Joseph Hosier forty acres

of land in Pittsford, Jan. 31, 1788. This lay north and adjoining the lot owned by Asa Stevens, and included land now owned by Mrs. Mills. He made the first clearing and built a house about where Mrs. Mills' barn now stands. This was for some years the residence of the father and his son Samnel.

Israel Morgan, from Spenceer, Mass., purchased of Gershom Beach, of Rutland, fifty acres of land in Pittsford, paying for the same £18. This was located east of the home lot of Gideon Sheldon, and though the deed was obtained in 1787, the land was not occupied that year, but a small house was built in the fall, and the following spring the family, consisting of the parents and five children, came from Spenceer and occupied the house which stood about forty rods west of the house then owned by Samuel Waters, Jr. After the death of the father, Peter, the son, born in 1785, married Mary Page, July 3, 1806, and located on the home farm. His wife Mary died Feb. 6, 1845, and he married, 2d, Adaline Roberts, April 9, 1845. Before his death he purchased the Sheldon farm, and built a new and substantial house which is now occupied by his son Byron.

The year 1789, witnessed the arrival of several new settlers, and the multiplication of families by the marriage of several young men who had resided in the town for longer or shorter periods. Among the number we may mention Ithiel Barnes, Peter Powers, Asband Polley, Caleb Hendee, Jr., Ashbel Hopkins and Martin Hopkins.

Ithiel Barnes was the son of James and Experience (Wise) Barnes, and was born in New Fairfield, Conn., April 27, 1763. In 1784, he married Grizzel Hunt, who was born in New Milford, Conn., Dec. 10, 1765, and they first located in New Fairfield, where were born the following children, viz.: Nancy, Abigail, Experience and Israe. He came to Pittsford in the winter of 1789, and purchased of his cousin John Barnes

eighty acres of land—the first-division lot of the right of Edward Flint—the deed being dated January 12, 1789. This included the farm now owned by Mrs. Charlotte Barnes with some adjoining land. The following spring he built a house which stood about three rods north of the house now on the farm, and as soon as the traveling would permit, he went to Connecticut for his family. We are unable to state the time of their arrival here, but probably early in June. They had four children born in Pittsford, viz.: Susan, Ann, Polly and Ithiel.*

Peter Powers had an honorable ancestry. Peter Powers, born at Littleton, Mass., 1707, and Anna Keyes, born at Chelmsford, Mass., 1708, being united in wedlock in 1728, moved to Dunstable, N. H., the same year. But not considering himself permanently located in that township, he penetrated the forest of *Nissitissit*, now Hollis, in the fall of 1730, and was the first white settler in that township. They spent the following year and a half in that dense forest secluded from the civilized world; their nearest neighbors could not be visited in a less traveling distance than ten miles. On the 9th of March, 1732, their third child, Anna, was born, and was the first English child born in that town. In 1755, New Hampshire troops were called upon to aid in the capture of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and a number of Hollis men went on the expedition. At that time Peter Powers received his commission of Captaincy under Col. Blanchard. It was given “under the Hand and Seal at Arms, at Portsmouth, the 5th day of June, in the 28th year of the Reign of His Majesty, King George the Second, Anno Domini 1755—signed Benning Wentworth, as Governor of His Majesty’s Province of New Hampshire.” How long he was in the service we are not

*Ithiel Barnes, the father, entered the army as a walter for his father who was Lieutenant in the Revolutionary war, and the Master Muster mustered him out on account of his age, (being but fifteen,) but his father took him to Gen. Putnam, who asked the lad if he wanted to stay, and he replied yes. “Well,” said the General, “let him stay, he will grow to it.” And he served through the war.

informed, but he died of a malignant fever, August 27th, 1757. Anna Powers, his widow, died Sept. 21, 1798. Peter Powers, their eldest son, born at Dunstable, Nov. 29, 1728, graduated at Cambridge College 1758, and was a devoted minister of the Gospel more than forty years. He died at Deer Island in the year 1800.

Stephen Powers, a younger son, married and located in Hollis, where he died in 1775; leaving a son Peter, born April 28, 1765. The latter, at the age of sixteen years, entered the American navy, but in a few months left the naval service and returned to Hollis. In 1789, he came to Pittsford and bought of Jonathan Fassett one hundred and twenty-four acres of land, a part of which had been surveyed on the right of John Jenks, and a part on the right of Ebenezer Harvey. This deed appears to have included a part of the Fassett farm—now owned by the heirs of the late David Hall—together with land which had been owned by Edward Owen. February 17, 1791, he married Lucy, daughter of Thomas Lee, and resided a short time on the Fassett farm. He soon after sold a part of his land and, on the 13th of September, 1792, bought of Moses Doolittle one hundred and forty acres, the most of which was laid out on the right of Samuel Johnson. This included most of the farms now owned by George N. Eayres and Marshall Wood, and was mostly covered with a dense forest. The first clearing was made, and a small house built* near where Mr. Eayres' house now stands, and this continued to be Mr. Powers' residence for nearly twenty-nine years. Afterwards he lived for limited periods on different farms, but finally located where his son Samuel Putnam now lives, and died there April 11, 1854.

Nothing is known of the ancestry of Asband Polley. He was in this town in 1789, married a daughter of Edward Owen, and resided for a few months in the family of his brother-in-

* Mr. Doolittle had built the house and made other improvements.

law, Abraham Owen. He owned no real estate here, but had made arrangements for building a house on land then owned by Mr. Owen, and had proceeded so far with the work as to put up the frame, when he went to Peter Sutherland's saw-mill to obtain boards with which to cover the same, and while standing upon a pile of boards at the head of the Falls, the boards slipped, and he was precipitated into the stream. The following is copied from the record: "Asband Polley died the 12th of April 1790, drowned in Peter Sutherland's Falls in Otter Creek, north part of Rntland, and was found in five weeks and one day and decently buried in Pittsford North Burying Ground east side of the Creek."

Caleb Hendee, Jr., was the eldest son of Caleb Hendee of whom some account has been given. As we shall probably hereafter give a sketch of his public life, a glance at his early history only, is intended here, and we will let him tell his own story: "As I have related, my father was married on the 27th day of April 1767, to Caroline Ellsworth, at Simsbury, Connecticut. On Friday at noon or *high twelve*, the 21st day of October, A. D. 1768, on the 12th day of the moon, according to Astrology, Venus governed the day and Jupiter the hour, their first born, the writer of this article, was ushered into this wonderful world! But as I have no faith in Astrology, I have placed no confidence in that part of the matter. A few days after my father moved into this town (Pittsford) in the month of March, being in my sixth year, I narrowly escaped being drowned in Otter Creek near what is called Stevens' Fordway, on what is now Col. Hammond's intervalle. My Uncle, Israel Ellsworth, and one Mr. Warner were at work clearing off the timber into the river the bank being nearly full, the water swift and cold, I with a small pole was endeavoring to shove off some flood wood to see it swim away. In leaning on the pole the other end slipped off and in I went, head foremost, the water ten or fifteen feet deep. Not being perceived by any one

I was left to shift for myself. After a short struggle, with some difficulty I succeeded in extricating myself from a watery and untimely grave. I had got some rods from the spot before I was seen by my uncle and the other man. In the month of December 1784, my father sent me to a boarding school in Danby under the instruction of an Englishman where I studied four months, and studied arithmetic, geometry and surveying which I now have in two large manuscripts, as well as the large slate on which I figured. This was the best and essential part of the school instruction which I received of my father. About the year 1786, my father purchased me a set of surveying instruments and I commenced the business of land surveying which I followed occasionally for about forty years. About the same time also I commenced teaching school in the winter season, and followed it for eight winters, including three years that I taught school constantly. From my earliest youth I have had a strong desire to obtain knowledge, and of course I have read and studied as much as my other avocations of life would permit. From the age of seventeen to that of twenty I was occasionally unwell, and did not enjoy very good health; indeed, from sixteen years old till nearly twenty I was weakly. In the fall of the year 1788, by the permission and assistance of my father, I visited the sea shore of New Haven, New London, New York, &c., for the benefit of my health, and returned in November with my health improved and took a school. On the 14th of January, A. D. 1789, I was duly joined in marriage to Lydia, daughter of Elder Elisha Rich; this union took place in consequence of a long standing agreement, and, as I had reason to believe, a mutual attachment. But I continued in the service of my father till the 21st day of the following October, he not choosing to let me have my time till I was twenty-one years old. In November or December 1789, my wife and myself commenced keeping house for ourselves. We began the world rather low as to property; she had given her,

by her father, about this time, twenty acres of wild land which we sold for \$120, which, with what she had acquired by her own industry, constituted her portion, with which we purchased two cows and some furniture. Some time after this my father gave me one hundred acres of land on which were some improvements, but no buildings; the land might have been worth about \$600. He also gave me a three years old colt, a part of the value of a pair of ordinary oxen. I had caught a wolf with whose pate and skin I purchased some sheep—ten in number—this is all that constituted my portion, except my father gave me about one hundred and fifty young apple trees and land to set them on which I now own. By my own and my wife's industry, in a few years we were able to purchase from my father about eight acres more of land, viz.: four acres of intervalle and four of upland for which we gave about \$150. It adjoined the other and was bought to accommodate the same, but still we had no buildings, but lived in one of the old barracks at Fort Vengeance. In February or March I exchanged the land I had of my father with Col. Thomas Hammond for a part of the farm on which I now live. I had of him about one hundred and fifteen acres which was reckoned at \$1,000, and what I let him have at \$750. By the industry and economy of myself and wife we soon paid the boot money and have since added considerably more to our possessions. On the first day of June, 1795, I narrowly escaped being killed. I was returning from Pittsford village in an empty cart with a young pair of oxen which took fright and ran rapidly. I was in the forepart of the cart, and before I could get out, the cart was turned upside down, and I was thrown on my head and face on the frozen ground which was very rough from a late rain and sudden freeze. I was very much bruised and my right ear knocked off and hung only by a small piece of skin. My ear was sewed on, but the cartilage, in healing, rotted and came out, and the wound was a long time in getting well. About

this time commenced the three years which I taught a school in Pittsford village. I built my barn under the hill, A. D. 1811, and my cider mill about the same time. In the summer of 1815, I built the house in which I now live. In the spring and summer of 1821, I built the barn called German's barn, this side the Baptist Meeting House. My writings will show my dealings in landed property. On the 27th of July, A. D. 1822, I was taken very sick with stagnation of my blood which confined me to my room about fifteen days. In the month of March, 1823, I went on horseback to Boston and to Sharon, Mass., and it being very stormy, brought on inflammation of my eyes which have never been entirely well since, and I can now see but poorly. I had to be shut up in a dark room seven or eight weeks, bled, blistered, &c."*

Ashbel Hopkins was a son of Nehemiah, and born at West Stockbridge, Mass., and probably came to this town with other members of his father's family. On the 12th of May, 1789, his father deeded to him and his brother Ebenezer, the grist-mill and twenty-seven acres and forty-nine rods of land. Ashbel built a house on land now owned by Augustus Hammond; it stood some five or six rods east of the one now owned by Mr. Hammond. He married, and resided there till his death in 1793.

Martin Hopkins, brother of the preceding, was a carpenter and joiner by trade, and was considered one of the best architects of that day. The most of the buildings erected here during the time of his residence in the town, were constructed under his direction. He married Sarah, daughter of Stephen Mead, and resided some years in the first house built by Caleb Cooley; afterwards he built a house on land now owned by Charles Spencer, which stood a few rods north of where George Brown's house now stands. After a few years he moved to the State of New York where he died.

* Hendee's MS., Sept. 21, 1827.

Having given some account of the families that located in the township during the last ten years and pointed out their places of residence, it now remains to see what was done, during this period, by the inhabitants or Proprietors in their collective capacity, for the benefit of society or by way of internal improvements. Several subjects such as the building of mills and the establishment and maintenance of religious institutions, might properly be mentioned in this connection, but the consideration of these will be reserved for separate chapters, and we shall speak here only of those civil and political acts which so deeply concerned the people of that period. As the records are the chief source of information we shall take the liberty to transcribe from these, retaining the exact language and orthography of the original:

"PITTSFORD March 15th 1780, then met and opened the sd meeting.

1. Chose Jonathan Rowley moderator.
2. Chose William Cox Proprietors Clerk.
3. Voted that the Proprietors Clerk send to Doctor Fassett for the Proprietors' Books and other Papers that belong to the Proprietors of sd Pittsford. Chose Moses Olmsted and Silas Mosher as a Committee to see the Papers fetched.
4. Voted to adjourn sd meeting to the first Monday of May next, at the house of John Barnes, at one of the clock in the afternoon.

PITTSFORD May ye 1, A. D. 1780, then met and opened the sd meeting.

1. Chose Samuel Crippen to be the man that takes care to get the Proprietors' Books, and other Papers that belong to the Proprietors of Pittsford.
2. Voted to adjourn sd meeting to the first Monday of November next then to meet at Lient. Moses Olmsted's, at one of the Clock in the afternoon.

PITTSFORD October 2d 1783.*

Then the Proprietors of the township of Pittsford met at the Dwelling house of Esq. Fassett and proceeded to business.

1. Made choice of Nehemiah Hopkins, Moderator.
- 2d. Made choice of James Ewings, Clerk.
- 3d. Voted that every free Holder be a voter in this meeting according to his interest.
- 4th. Voted that Capt. Cooley Be Treasury for this Proprietary.
- 5th. Voted that a committee of five men be as a committee to Regulate the former surveys records, viz.: Jonathan Rowley, Capt. Cooley, Esq. Fassett, Esq. Drury and James Hopkins, and make their report to the next meeting.
- 6th. Voted that the Town Plot be surveyed in acre lots.
- 7th. Voted that Aaron Parsons Gideon Sheldon, John Read, Calvin Pitkin, Joshua June, Ephraim Stevens be a Committee to lay out lands in this town.
- 8th. Voted that every Proprietor that has had a survey of his land and has lost it by reason of the war, shall have twenty days to file his declaration in the Clerk's Office where his land lies and the dimensions of it, that being done shall have till the next adjourned meeting to get a proper survey Bill of his land.
- 9th. Voted that there be 3 shillings on a right to defray the charges of the Proprietary.
- 10th. Voted that there be an addition of 3 shillings more on each right which will make 6 shillings on the right or share of Land to defray public charges.
- 11th. Voted that Mr. Rowley, John Barnes James Ewings stand as a Committee to settle with Capt. Cooley, to see what has become of the money, that Pitch of one Hundred acres of land was sold for, and make a report to the next meeting.

* The records from the 1st of May, 1780, to the 2d of October, 1783, are lost.

12th. Voted that this meeting be adjourned until the first Monday of January at the dwelling house Esq. Fassett."

Following the foregoing record is this declaration in conformity to the eighth vote:

"PITTSFORD, Oct. 9, 1783.

Benjamin Stevens this day declares and says that he has one hundred and ten acres land being in Pittsford, Bounded as follows, viz.: Beginning at his northeast corner first lot, then running North 160 Rods, then running 110 East to a Beach Staddle then running round to the first mentioned Bounds containing one hundred and ten acres of Land."

Five similar declarations, claiming as many lots follow the above, viz.: two more by Benjamin Stevens, two by Silas Mosher, and one by John Rhodes.

"PITTSFORD, January 5, 1784.

Then met upon said Monday and opened said Meeting at ten O'clock forenoon and voted to adjourn said Meeting unto 3 o'clock said day. Met according to adjournment and opened said Meeting and Proceeded to business, then voted that the reports of the Committee is according to the Resolve of the Proprietors of said town on the disputes between Jonathan Fassett and Amasa Ladd.

Then voted to except the report of the Committee on William Marsh's survey in said town.

Then voted to except Elihu Stevens pitch and survey to be good.

Then voted to except the report of the Committee on 110 acres of the right of John Hall 5th, William Cox and Jonathan Fassett.

Then voted to give untill the next adjourned meeting to the man or men that hant got a survey of their land and likewise for any man or men that has not got a good Proprietor to get

a good Proprietor and cover their land, not interfering on former surveys.

Voted to except the report of the Committee on the survey of 110 acres of land 2d division of Theodore Atkinson, Esq., to be good to Fassett.

Then voted to except the account of the Committee for services which is £10—15s L. M.

Voted to pay the Committee Mr. Jonathan Rowley, James Ewings and John Barnes for their services in finding what was become of a sum of money that a pitch of Proprietors land was sold for £1—10s. York Money.

Voted to pay James Ewings for recording the Charter in the Proprietors' Book 5 shillings.

Voted to except the report of the Committee on Elisha Harvey's 110 acres of land not good.

Voted that James Ewings be Collector for the Proprietors on the six shillings, and two and two pence tax.

Voted to raise one shilling more as an addition to the six shillings which will make seven on each rate to be paid at the same time when the other six is paid.

Voted to have John Rhoads, Moses Omsted and James Ewings a Committee to settle with Esq. Jonathan Fassett to see what is come of the money that a lot of land was sold for (£21 New York money) and make their report at the next meeting.

Voted that the seven shillings tax be paid by the first day of March next.

Voted that Esq. Drury be an assistant to the Collector to publish all the delinquent lands in the Vermont Gazette according to law, both for the town and Proprietors.

Voted that Ebenezer Lyman and Moses Omsted be a Committee, as an addition to the former Committee, to lay out the lots and Town Plott.

Voted to adjourn this proprietors meeting until the first

Monday of May next at the house of Lient. Omsted at ten o'clock forenoon.

Attest, JAMES EWINGS, Clerk.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Moderator.

PITTSFORD May ye 3, 1784.

Then met upon said Monday at the time and place according to adjournment and opened the meeting and adjourned the meeting to Esq. Fussetts the same day at three o'clock afternoon.

Attest, NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Moderator.

JAMES EWINGS, Clerk.

PITTSFORD May ye 3, 1784.

Then met according to adjournment and opened the meeting and proceeded to business.

Voted to except the Committee's report in their settlement with Esq. Jonathan Fassett on account of the pitch of land sold by the proprietors at Vendue and find due to said proprietors £1—2s—2d York Money.

Voted to chose a committie of three men to examine Col. Doolittle's account against the proprietors and make their report at the next meeting, viz.: John Roads Esq. J. Fassett and Deacon Harwood.

Voted to choose a committee of three to settle with the Collector and Treasurer on the two penny land tax, viz., Esq. Drury, Esq. Fassett and Deacon Harwood and make their report at the next meeting.

Voted that the Proprietors have untill the next adjourned meeting to get their land surveyed, not interfering on former surveys.

Voted to adjourn the meeting untill the first Monday of July next at one o'clock afternoon at the house of Moses Omsted.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Moderator.

JAMES EWINGS, P. C.

PITTSFORD Jnly ye 5, 1784.

Then met at time and place according to adjournment and opened said meeting and adjourned until the first Monday of October next at one o'clock afternoon at Lient. Omsted's.

At. NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, M.
JAMES EWINGS P. C.

PITTSFORD October ye 4th 1784.

Then met at the time and place according to adjournment, and opened the meeting and voted that Capt. Cooley has the whole of the two-penny Land tax;* and find in the two Bridges over the Gulleys and the other Bridges fifteen hundred feet to be built.

Voted that the meeting be adjourned to the first Monday of April next at two o'clock in the afternoon at the house of Lient. Omsted.

PITTSFORD, April ye 4, 1785.

Then met at the time and place and proceeded to business. Chose Ebenezer Drury, Esq., Moderator.

Voted that there be a Committee of five men to lay out the Town Plot and also to lay out all the other Public Lands in said town.

Chose James Ewings, John Barnes, Capt. Cooley, Lieut. Omsted and William Cox the above committee.

Voted that the former committee chosen, see that the Town Plot be cleared of men and people and also all the other public lands in said town by order of the Proprietors.

Voted that James Ewings, Deputy Sheriff, serve as an officer to warn the present Inhabitants now residing on the Public Lands which men are cutting and enlling the timber on said land and also making improvements on said Public Lands which is a detriment to said Proprietors, and contrary to Charter.

* It will be recollect that the two-penny land tax was raised for the building of bridges.

Voted that James Ewings, Capt. Cooley and Esq. Fassett be as a committee in order to examine Col. Ephraim Doolittle's account for running the town lines and make their report at the next meeting and also examine all other accounts exhibited.

Voted that James Ewings, Proprietors' Collector, receive notes from the present Inhabitants for their proportion of the seven shillings tax and that they settle by the first day of May next, or their not complying with the above proposal so much of their lands will be sold to pay the above said tax, payable by the first day of September next.

Voted that the acre lots be laid out by the next adjourned meeting and that the Proprietors draw for their lots according to charter.

Voted that this Proprietors Meeting be adjourned until the first Tuesday in September next at one o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Lieut. Omsted.

Attest, EBENEZER DRURY, Moderator,
 JAMES EWINGS, P. Clerk.

PITTSFORD Sept. 7, 1785.

Then met at the time and place according to adjournment the Proprietors meeting fifteen minutes unto the Meeting House.*

PITTSFORD, SEPT. 6, 1785.

Met according to adjournment and proceeded to business, firstly voted and chose Doct. Easmon and Joseph Crary as a committee to draw the acre lots in the Town Plot.

Excepted the report of the Committee concerning the account of Col. Doolittle and ordered the report to be recorded.

Voted to except a survey of ten acres of land, left in the Town Plot, for part of the second division of the school lot.

Voted to except the Committees doing in laying out the Town Plot.

* This was the log meeting house which stood about where the Baptist meeting house now stands.

Voted to give Esq. Jonathan Fassett eight dollars for the Plan of the Town of Pittsford, drawn by Esq. Tolman on Parchment.*

Voted to pay Capt. Joseph Crary £2—14s. L. M., for work laying out the Town Plot.

Excepted John Barnes Account	£1— 6s— 6d
Excepted John Rhoads Account	0—10 — 6
Excepted James Ewings Account	11— 8 — 0
Excepted Esq. Drury's Account	0— 5 — 0
Excepted Capt. Cooley's Account	0— 5 — 0
Excepted Lieut. Omsted's Account	1— 2 —10
Excepted Caleb Hendee's Account	1—12 — 0
Excepted Capt. Fassett's Account	0— 6 — 0

Voted that Cap. Cooley and James Ewings be as a committee to regulate the Proprietors and record the doings regular on the Book.

Voted to send to the Assembly to get a special act to sell so much of the divided lands of the Proprietors as to pay the seven shillings tax.

Voted to adjourn this meeting untill the first Monday of January next at two o'clock afternoon on said day at this place.

Attest, NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, M.
 JAMES EWINGS, Clerk.

MONDAY January 1786.

Met at the time and place according to adjournment, and adjourned this meeting untill the 14th day of March next at the Meeting House at two o'clock afternoon on said day.

Attest, JAMES EWINGS, P. C.
 NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, M.

* This plan on parchment is still in the archives of the town, and though somewhat defaced is still of great value in locating the original lots. It is entitled "A Plan of the town of Pittsford taken from Baldwin's original draught of said township by T. Tolman and A. Fassett." The original draught is dated 1783. The Plan in this volume is a copy.

PITTSFORD March 14 1786.

Met at time and place according to adjournment and adjourned the meeting untill the first Tuesday of May next at nine o'clock A. M.

Attest, JAMES EWINGS, P. C.
NEHEMIAH HOPKINS.

PITTSFORD May 2, 1786.

Met at the time and place and opened the meeting and made choice of Capt. Benjamin Cooley Proprietors Clerk.

Voted to except Capt. Crury's account for surveying Public Land in the month of October, 1785, it being 18 shillings.

Voted to except John Barnes' account for mensuring land for the Publick with Capt. Crury it being 15 shillings.

Voted that the new Clerk report Emedately to James Ewings and request all the writings that belong to the Proprietors of Pittsford.

Voted to adjourn said meeting to the first Tuesday in September next at one of the clock in the afternoon said meeting to be held at the Baptist Meeting House.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS.
BENJAMIN COOLEY, P. C.

September 5, 1786.

Then the Proprietors met at time and place and opened the meeting that stood adjourned to this day.

Voted Ebenezer Drury, Capt. Benjamin Cooley be a committee to assist Mr. Ewings, Collector, in posting the delinquents lands on the seven shillings tax.

Voted that Esq. Jonathan Fussett and Capt. Benjamin Cooley and James Ewings be a committee to examine all accounts against the Proprietors and report at the next adjourned meeting and all accounts exhibited to said Committee before said adjourned meeting to be foreclosed.

Voted to adjourn sd meeting to the second Tuesday of March next at 4 o'clock afternoon to the Baptist Meeting House.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Modr.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, P. C.

March ye 13, 1787.

Then the Proprietors met according to adjournment and opened said meeting and voted to adjourn said meeting one fortnite from this day at one o'clock at this place.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Modr.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, P. Clerk.

March 27, 1787.

Then the Proprietors met at time and place according to adjournment, and opened said meeting and voted to adjourn said meeting to the first Monday in May next, at one o'clock afternoon at the Log Meeting House.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Modr.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, P. C.

PITTSFORD May 7th 1787.

Then the Proprietors met at the time and place according to the adjournment and opened said meeting.

Voted that James Ewings record all surveys brought to him for record when he was Proprietors Clerk except that lot that was given to Mr. Harwood by the town.

Voted that the cost of laying out the acre lots and Publick lots be paid out of the acre lots by tax.

Voted to lay out the forth Division.

Voted that the Proprietors have untill the first of October next to lay out the Publick Lands.

Voted to adjourn said meeting to the first Tuesday of September next at this place at two o'clock afternoon.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Modr.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, Clerk,

PITTSFORD, Sept. 4th, 1787.

The Proprietors of Pittsford met at the time and place, and opened said meeting according to adjournment, and adjourned said meeting to the first Monday in October next at one o'clock afternoon at the Log Meeting House.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, Proprietors Clerk.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Moderator.

PITTSFORD Oct. 1, 1787.

The Proprietors' meeting opened and proceeded to business.

First, Voted that James Ewings collector advertise the acre lots in said town, to be sold to pay the cost of surveying out said lots as soon as the law directs.

Voted to adjourn this meeting until the second Tuesday of March next at two o'clock afternoon on said day at this meeting house in Pittsford.

Attest, NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Moderator.

JAMES EWINGS, Clerk Pro. tem.

PITTSFORD, March 11th 1788.

Then the Proprietors met at the time and place according to adjournment and opened said meeting, and adjourned said meeting to Nathan Websters at four o'clock on said day.

Voted to call the acre lots the fourth division.

Voted to adjourn said meetings to the first Tuesday in September next at four o'clock afternoon to be holden at the meeting house.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Moderator.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, Clerk.

PITTSFORD September ye 2, 1788.

Then met at the time and place according to adjournment and opened said meeting and voted to adjourn said meeting to

the second Tuesday in November 1789, at 2 of the clock in the afternoon to be holden at the house of Nathan Webster.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Moderator.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, Clerk.

PITTSFORD, November 10th 1789.

Then met at time and place according to adjournment and opened said meeting and voted to ajourn said meeting to the second Tuesday in November in the year 1790, two of the clock in the afternoon to be holden at the house of Nathan Webster.

NEHEMIAH HOPKINS, Moderator.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, Town Clerk."

These are the only existing records of meetings held by the Proprietors during the last ten years, and it will be seen that at many of them no important business was transacted, but they were merely meetings and adjournments. Up to 1771, the meetings of the Proprietors had doubtless been held either in Massachusetts or Bennington, Vermont, and the records of the proceedings of those meetings had been kept by different clerks, and had become somewhat scattered and confused. The Proprietors deemed it a matter of considerable importance, as truly they might, to have these records collected and systematically arranged or "regulated." And that the committee charged with this duty, made some little effort to accomplish the work assigned them, the records conclusively show, but for some reason, to us unknown, it was very imperfectly done.

The Town-Plot Lots were surveyed in 1785, in conformity to the vote of the Proprietors, and these acre lots were laid out on either side of the north-and-south road, thirty-four on the east side, and an equal number on the west, and extending from a point forty rods and seven feet north of the north line of the Baptist Burying Ground, to the south line of the Con-

gregational Meeting House Lot, or to about the middle of the house lot now owned by J. A. Randall. On the east side of the road the north line of Willard Randall's lot is the south line of the Meeting House Lot.

In this Plot four acres were laid out for the Congregational Meeting-House Lot; two acres and ten rods for the Baptist Meeting-House Lot, and two acres for the North Burying Ground.

The whole Town Plot consisted of a little more than eighty-six acres, but only about seventy-six acres were included in the foregoing lots, consequently there remained in the easterly part of the Plot ten acres of common-land which, according to the vote of the Proprietors, was reckoned a part of the second division of the school lot.

A Plan of the Town Plot with the original papers relating to it, is in the Town Clerk's Office, the filing of which is as follows:

“Field Book
Town Plot May 10, 1785.
JOSEPH CRARY, Surveyor.”

All these papers have been neatly recorded in the Proprietors' Book by the present town clerk, Samuel H. Kellogg.

But the most exciting events of the last decade do not appear upon the Proprietors' records, and for an account of these we shall have to go to other sources of information. The history of those events has never been fully written, and it is very difficult at this late day to appreciate in their entireness the motives which influenced the candid and patriotic men of that period, to adopt measures which to us, with our present light upon the subject, appear rash and unreasonable. During the war the people of Vermont had made great efforts to aid in the common cause—the defence of American liberty—and at the same time to maintain their independence. These efforts

had required the expenditure of large sums of money, and to meet the demands of taxation a large proportion of them had contracted debts, which upon the return of peace, they were expecting to liquidate with no great strain upon their resources. But the close of the war, instead of ushering in a season of financial prosperity, as had been anticipated, was followed by a ruinous depreciation in the value of the currency and all other kinds of property; specie was flowing out of the country in exchange for foreign merchandise, and as the result of these facts the debtor portion of the people found it impossible to meet their obligations, and were completely at the mercy of their creditors. So wide-spread was the dissatisfaction, and so loud the complaint of suffering, that in August, 1786, Gov. Chittenden prepared and published an address to the citizens of the State, counseling mutual forbearance and kindness, the cultivation of the necessities for clothing and food, particularly wool and flax, industry, economy, and the non-importation of foreign products, and suggesting a hope of some alleviation of their suffering by the action of the next Legislature. In October the Legislature assembled at the Court House in Rutland, and it was soon found that the members of the House of Representatives shared in the general feeling of discontent, and were ready for the adoption of almost any measures, however absurd, provided they held out the prospect of even temporary relief. "A law was passed authorizing a defaulting debtor to tender on execution the same articles which would have been good in the life of the contract; and another was passed enabling debtors to pay creditors in other States in specific articles, according to the laws of those respective States. A large party were champions for a State Bank of paper money and a general tender act, a law which would enable a debtor to pay a debt in whatever articles he chose. Some three or four able and conservative members of the Legislature, with Nathaniel Chipman, then in Rutland, held a private consultation in regard to the financial

condition of the State and the means of mitigating the existing evils; and being fully convinced that the measures proposed by a large majority of the members, would aggravate rather than mitigate these evils, they hit upon a plan to prevent the passage of laws which, it seemed to them, would be pernicious. This plan contemplated the postponement of the whole subject until the heat and excitement of the time had passed away; and in order to effect this object they agreed upon the following resolution, viz.:

"Resolved, That the people assemble in their respective towns on the first of January 1787, at the usual place of holding freemen's meetings, and there express by yeas or nays their approval or disapproval of omitting a small bank of paper money on loan or otherwise, of continuing the existing tender acts, and of a general tender act; the yeas and nays on these subjects to be transmitted to the Speaker of the Assembly to be a guide to the Legislature at their next session."

This resolution, on being introduced into the House, met with vehement opposition; but the argument that the people were the best judges of the remedies they needed prevailed, and the resolution was passed the 31st of October. After the Legislature had adjourned several reckless and unscrupulous men who were determined to avoid the payment of their debts, became quite active in denouncing the action of the Legislature; and by misrepresentation and every artifice in their power, they attempted to stir up the people to resist the execution of the laws. Among the most conspicuous of these restless spirits was Col. Thomas Lee of Rutland who had served as Captain in Col. Warner's regiment in the Revolutionary war, and was a man well calculated to take the lead in such a rebellious enterprise.

On Tuesday, the 21st of November, the County Court was to commence its usual session. The Court consisted of Chief-Justice Increase Moseley, of Clarendon; Assistant Judges

Samuel Mattocks and Ebenezer Marvin, of Tinmouth, and William Ward, of Poultney; Clerk, Rev. Obadiah Noble, of Tinmouth; State's Attorney, Darins Chipman, of Rutland; Sheriff, Jonathan Bell of Rutland. It was known that a portion of the suits pending at this Court had been instituted for the recovery of debts, and as the General Assembly had omitted such legislation in reference to these debts as the debtor portion of the community demanded, they resolved to prevent the holding of the Court and thereby to arrest, for the time being, all judicial proceedings. The excitement upon this subject ran so high, that on the morning of the 21st of November, as the Judges came into Rutland, they found a crowd of men and boys, armed with clubs, thronging the streets, collecting about the Court House and protesting against the holding of the Court. The Court, however, was opened, but without proceeding to the business before it, adjourned to two o'clock P. M. Soon after the adjournment a number of men waited upon the Judges and presented to them a petition, requesting them to adjourn the Court without transacting any business. The Judges replied that in the afternoon, after the docket had been called and the business of the day attended to, the petition should be taken into consideration. Immediately after the Court was opened in the afternoon, Col. Lee, at the head of about one hundred men, rushed into the Court room and, in a boisterous and insolent manner, threatened the Court for not granting their request. The Court, for the time, being powerless against the mob, was by order of the Judges adjourned to nine o'clock the next morning. This being in exact opposition to the request of the mob, as expressed in their petition, they became greatly exasperated and a few of their number rushed to a neighboring house, where they procured a supply of fire-arms, and returning, distributed them among their comrades, who immediately surrounded the Court House, guarded every avenue and held the Court and all in

attendance thereon, prisoners. By thus making an exhibition of their power they were hoping to intimidate the Court and gain the object of their request. But in this they mistook; the Court was not thns to be overawed; and after being held about two hours, they were permitted to depart and return to their lodgings. Here the committee of the Regulators—as the mob styled themselves—again presented their petition to which the Judges formally replied as follows: “The Judges of the County Court, in and for the County of Rutland, having taken under their consideration the petition of a number of the inhabitants of said County, in which it is requested that this Court adjourn without doing any business; the Court find on examination of the docket, that a large number of cases are in suit, in which the plaintiffs and defendants are mutually agreed to come to a decisive trial this session, and some other matters of such importance to the peace, dignity and interest of the good people of this County are depending, that the Court cannot, agreeable to the tenor of their oaths and the general good of this County, comply with the aforesaid requisition; notwithstanding this Court would not wish to try any causes at this term, but such as, in the opinion of the Court, are necessary to preserve the peace, happiness, interest and dignity of this County in particular, and the Constitution and State of Vermont in general.” Failing thus far to obtain their object, the Regulators determined to accomplish by force what they could not do by petition nor threats. A part of their number, well armed, took possession of the Court House, with the design of holding it and preventing the sitting of the Court the next day, and expresses were sent out into the neighboring towns for reinforcements. In the evening the Sheriff sent orders to Col. Isaac Clark of Castleton, Col. Pearl of Pawlet, and Lieut.-Col. Spafford of Tinmouth to raise the militia of the county and come without delay, supplied with fire-arms and three days’ provisions, to assist him in sustaining the Court. These orders

were promptly responded to, and by nine o'clock Wednesday morning, Cols. Clark and Pearl arrived with so formidable a force that the Regulators, intimidated, quit the Court House and offered no further resistance to the Comt.

During the day the militia came in from every quarter. Companies from Tinmouth, Hubbardton, Castleton and Poultney, well armed and officered, placed themselves under the command of Col. Clark as senior officer. In the meantime the Regulators had not been idle, but by misrepresenting the answer of the Judges to their petition, and by circulating false reports, they stirred up a feeling of indignation towards the Comt, so that during the day they received considerable reinforcements, coming chiefly from Pittsford and West Rutland, with a few from Chittenden, Ira and Clarendon.

After all their efforts at drumming up recruits, they were not in sufficient force to think of contending successfully with the militia, but they kept up their demonstrations during the day, marching through the streets, confronting the militia, discussing the nature of their grievances and demanding the adoption of such measures as, in their opinion, would afford them relief. Foremost in raising the recruits from Pittsford was Jonathan Fassett, though Col. Benjamin Cooley, in consideration of his long military experience, was placed in command. This company joined Lee early in the day, and was with him in the most of his noisy demonstrations; but at night Col. Cooley with about fifty men retired to the house of Lt. Roswell Post about a mile north of the Court House on the Pittsford road. Just at night several of the more prominent of the rioters remaining in the village were arrested, though Col. Lee escaped. The militia were quartered at Gove's tavern and other houses in that vicinity. Sentries were placed in the streets, and none were allowed to pass without giving the countersign. About midnight orders were received to arrest Col. Cooley and his company. Col. Clark called for volunteers. Sixteen horse-

men under the command of Capt. Noah Lee of Castleton, and a party of infantry offered their services and were soon on the march. On arriving at the brook a little south of Post's, they took a circuitous route and surrounded the house. So quickly and noiselessly was this movement made that Col. Cooley and his party had no knowledge of the approach of the militia till called upon to surrender. On being thus suddenly aroused, they seized their guns and prepared for resistance; but after the exchange of a few shots and some blows, they saw the hopelessness of further resistance and surrendered. A few escaped, and these only by leaping out of a window, and taking advantage of the darkness of the night. Nehemiah Hopkins, Jr., of Pittsford, a member of the mob, received a shot which shattered his right arm from the elbow to the wrist. Amputation was successfully performed the following day by Drs. Ezekiel Porter* and Daniel Reed of Rutland. The prisoners were conducted back to the village and lodged in jail. Thursday morning, the Regulators having disappeared from the streets, and the excitement somewhat subsided, the Court was opened, the prisoners arraigned and their trials commenced. Some were discharged without trial; five were acquitted; twenty-one† plead guilty and were fined, some 9s. and some 10s. and costs; and fourteen on trial were found guilty, and were fined from £3 to £25 with costs, and were required to give bonds varying from £20 to £150, with sureties for their good behavior for one year.

The following papers relative to these trials were found among the old Supreme and County Court files, rescued, col-

* Young Hopkins' wound was dressed by order of Col. Clark, and Dr. Porter's bill for amputation and subsequent treatment was £11 3s. This was paid by the State.

† These were James Hopkins, John Tuttle, Ebenezer Hopkins, John Rhodes, Elisha Warner, Martin Hopkins, Stephen Hopkins, John Tripp, Ashbel Hopkins, David Starks, Elijah Adams, Caleb Cooley, Benjamin Stevens, Jr., Jeremiah Powers, Ebenezer Lyman, Elijah Brown, Samuel Adams, Peter Powers, Amos Kellogg, Solomon Taylor and Jabez Olmstead.

leeted and bound in ten Volumes, by Gen. Hopkins, while Clerk of the Court, and furnished me by him:

"To the Honorable the County Court, now sitting in Rutland, within and for the county of Rutland, comes Darius Chipman, Attorney for said county, and complaint and information makes, that on the 22 day of November, A. D. 1786, at said Rutland, Jonathan Fassett, Ebenezer Drury, Dan Barnard, Reuben Allen, Jonathan Swift, Simeon Tupper, Jonathan Rowley, Benjamin Cooley, all of Pittsford in said county, Gideon Horton, Nathan Daniels, of Brandon, and William Roberts, Benjamin Whipple and Silas Mead, of Rutland, in said county, assembled in a riotous, routous and unlawful manner, with an intent to prevent the sitting of the Honorable County (Court), then and there sitting, and being so assembled as aforesaid, with guns, swords, and stones, marched through the streets at Rutland aforesaid, to the terror of the good people of this State, and then and there disturbed the Honorable County Court then sitting in the Court House in said Rutland, and many other enormities, they, the said Jonathan, Ebenezer, Dan, Reuben, Jonathan, Simeon, Jonathan, Benjamin, Gideon, William, Nathan, Benjamin and Silas then and there did, against the peace and dignity of the Freemen of the State of Vermont, to the evil example of others in like manner offending; wherefore said Attorney prays, that they, the said Jonathan, Ebenezer, Dan, Reuben, Jonathan, Simeon, Jonathan, Benjamin, Gideon, William, Nathan, Benjamin and Silas, may be made to answer this complaint, and be further dealt with, as to law and justice appertains.

Dated at Rutland this 23 day of November, A. D. 1786.

D. CHIPMAN, Attorney.

To the Sheriff of Rutland County, his Deputy, or either of the Constables in said county, in the name and by the authority of the Freemen of the State of Vermont, you are commanded, forthwith to apprehend the bodies of the within delinquents,

and safely keep and cause to appear before the County Court, now sitting in Rutland in said county, then to answer the within complaint, and do and suffer as the court shall order.

Dated at Rutland, November 23, 1786.

Obadiah Noble, Clerk.

November 23d, 1786. Then, by virtue of the within precept, I have arrested the bodies of the within Delinquents, and have them here in court.

Attest, Jona. Bell, Sheriff.

And now the said Attorney says, that he will prosecute the said Jonathan Rowley and Gideon Horton no further.

D. Chipman, Atty.

Whereupon, the Delinquents, being called to plead to said Information, plead not guilty, and put themselves on the country for trial.

Whereupon, a jury being impanelled and sworn to try the Delinquents, and having heard the said cause, on their oaths say, that Jonathan Fassett, William Roberts, Benjamin Cooley, Benjamin Whipple, Nathan Daniels, Silas Mead, are guilty of the facts charged against them in the said Information;

Whereupon, this court do adjudge and sentence that the said Jonathan Fassett pay a fine of £25 L. Money, to the Treasurer of this county, and give a bond, with surety, in the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Pounds, for his good behaviour for one year, and also a Bill of Costs, taxed by said court at £1. 2. 6. and that that the said William Roberts pay a fine of £15 to the Treasurer of this county, and give a bond, with surety, in the sum of £100 L. Money, for his good behaviour for one year, and pay a Bill of Costs, taxed by said court at £1. 2. 6. And that the said Benjamin Cooley pay a fine of £12. to the Treasurer of this county, and give a bond, with surety, of £100. for his good behaviour for one year, and also pay a Bill of Cost, taxed by said court at £1. 2. 6. And that

the said Benjamin Whipple pay a fine of £10. to the Treasurer of this county and give a bond in the sum of £100. for his good behaviour for one year, and also pay a Bill of Cost, taxed by said court at £1. 2. 6. And that Nathan Daniels pay a fine of £10. to the Treasurer of this county, and give a bond, with surety, for his good behaviour for one year, and pay a Bill of Cost, taxed at £1. 2. 6. And that Silas Mead pay a fine of £6. to the Treasurer of this county, and give a bond, with surety, for his good behaviour for one year, in the sum of £50. and pay a Bill of Cost, taxed by said court, at £1. 2. 6. And the aforesaid Delinquents, not being satisfied with said judgment, prayed for, and were admitted to an appeal to the then next stated session of the Supreme Court, to be holden at Rutland, within and for the county of Rutland, on the Third Tuesday of August then next.

The rebellion being considered effectually crushed, on Saturday afternoon the militia were assembled, and after being addressed by Col. Clark were discharged. But it was so near dark that they remained over night, and on Sabbath morning started for home. As the militia, returning westward, arrived at Pine Hill, they were informed that some two hundred malcontents were assembled at Col. James Mead's, west of Otter Creek. On the reception of this intelligence the Court issued orders for the immediate recall of the militia and for reinforcements from other parts of the county. Col. Pearl, who had gone southward, immediately returned with the militia under his command, and receiving large reinforcements from the west, halted at Blanchard's Corners in West Rutland, while the militia from the east proceeded to Center Rutland and, placing a strong guard at Otter Creek bridge, halted there during the day, thus placing the insurgents in a very unenviable position between two formidable forces. During the latter part of the preceding week, some of the most active in instigating the rebellion, had traversed the neighboring towns,

falsely charging the Court with dealing fraudulently with the Regulators, and with treating the prisoners with the most outrageous cruelty. The result of these charges was that even the most candid and conservative portion of the people were aroused to the highest state of indignation. Acting from the impulse of feeling created by what they were made to believe were the acts of an unjust and tyrannical court, the assemblage at Col. Mead's had convened to inaugurate active measures for redressing their wrongs. Sunday was improved by several friends of law and order, in efforts to convince the malcontents that many of the evils of which they complained did not exist; that for such as did exist, the Court was in no way responsible; that the prisoners had been kindly treated; and that the Court and the government had a common interest in doing all in their power to relieve the sufferings of the people. They were told that they had been misinformed, that they had been imposed upon by a few artful and designing men, and that the course they were pursuing, if persisted in, must inevitably result in bloodshed and ruin. These efforts were attended with gratifying success; the Regulators were convinced that they had been made the dupes of a gross imposition; and as candid and honest men they not only abandoned the object of their enterprise, but even joined the militia under Col. Clark in defence of the Court and the laws. Monday morning, all being again quiet, and no further use for the militia being anticipated, they received the thanks of the Court and were dismissed. The Court continued in session without further interruption until Tuesday evening, when it was adjourned without day. The militia were afterwards paid for their services by the State, and on the 2d day of March, 1787, the General Assembly passed and caused to be published the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That this House entertains a high sense of the services done to this State by the officers and soldiers, whose spirited exertions crushed the late daring

insurrection against government, in the counties of Rutland and Windsor,* and does hereby return the said officers and soldiers their hearty thanks."

On looking over the list of names of those who were engaged in this insurrection we are not a little surprised to find in it the names of such men as Col. Benjamin Cooley, Capt. Caleb Cooley, Amos Kellogg, Ebenezer Lyman, Ebenezer Hopkins and Elijah Adams, pioneers in the settlement of the town; men who had received a religious education and were deeply imbued with the spirit of Christianity; who had toiled together to lay broad and deep the foundation of our social and religious institutions; who were foremost in every enterprise pertaining to the material prosperity of the people; and who were looked upon as models of stability and embodiments of almost every manly virtue; and we wonder how such men could have engaged in high-handed rebellion against a beneficent government, and a government which they had themselves helped to establish. But the fact that they did this, shows the extremity of their sufferings, as well as the extremity of their misapprehension, in respect to its causes and proper remedies. But we must bear in mind that they lived in a very exciting period of our history. Not only were the families of the country in a very unsatisfactory condition, but the plans for improving them were various; and upon this subject public sentiment was very much divided and party feeling very strong.

At that time the facilities for obtaining information were greatly inferior to those we have now. There was not a newspaper published in the county, and only two^f in the State, and very few copies of these found their way into the families of Pittsford. It was not so difficult, therefore, for crafty politi-

* A similar outbreak had occurred in Windsor County.

^f At that time the Vermont Gazette was published at Bennington, and the Vermont Journal at Windsor.

cians to manufacture a local, public sentiment for or against a public measure. The people of Pittsford in common with the citizens of other portions of the State were in debt, and suffering greatly from an almost worthless currency; yet, that they would have risen in rebellion against the government, had they not been misinformed and perversely influenced, we are not prepared to admit. The man who of all others did most to promote a spirit of discontent and rebellion in Pittsford was, undoubtedly, Jonathan Fassett. He was one of the early settlers, a large land-holder, quite loquacious, took a prominent part in the transaction of the public business, and, up to this time, appears to have had the confidence of his townsmen, by reason of which he had three times represented them in the General Assembly of the State, and had but recently been elected for a fourth term. He had also held the office of Justice of the Peace and County Judge. It is not our purpose to discuss his motives, whether honest and conscientious, or selfish and vindictive; but that he, by his personal influence and public harangues, did more than any other to array the people of the town against the Court, there is no room for doubt. It is creditable to those whom he had deceived that their minds were open to conviction, and that as soon as convinced of their error, they deplored the course they had taken, and became law-abiding and law-sustaining citizens; while the man who had deceived them and been the principal cause of their disgrace, never afterwards received much favor at their hands.

The Court showed great discrimination in passing judgment upon the insurrectionists, and while the majority of those convicted were discharged on the payment of a mere nominal fine, Jonathan Fassett was required to disgorge the sum of £25, more than double the amount demanded of any other Pittsford man. But this was not the whole of his punishment, as will

be seen by the following extract from the journal of the proceedings of the General Assembly, at its next session in February following.

"To the Honorable General Assembly now sitting in Bennington by adjournment:

Gideon Brownson, Esq., complaining, saith, that Jonathan Fassett, Esq., of Pittsford, in the county of Rutland, and Representative to this Assembly for said town of Pittsford, for the present year, hath, during and since the session of this Assembly in October last, by seditious speeches misrepresenting the proceeding of this Assembly at their said session, among the good people of this State, endeavored to influence the minds of the citizens of this State against the proceedings of this Assembly, at their said session, and did excite them to mutiny, riot, and sedition against the laws and government of this State; and did, on the third Tuesday of November last, excite, encourage, aid and abet, a large number of the inhabitants of the county of Rutland, then notoriously and seditiously assembled at said Rutland to oppose the sitting of the County Court for the county of Rutland, then and there to be holden according to law; all which conduct of the said Jonathan Fassett is contrary to and in violation of a duty and obligation of a member of this House; your complainant therefore moves, that inquiry be made into the conduct of the said Jonathan, and he dealt with according to the rules and regulations of this House.

(Signed)

G. BROWNSON."

The question being put to Mr. Fassett whether he plead guilty or not guilty to said complaint, he answered *not guilty*. And on motion made, and agreed to by Mr. Fassett, *Ordered*, That Wednesday morning of next week, at the opening of the House in the morning, be assigned to take said complaint under

consideration; and that Mr. Fassett be suspended until that time from taking his seat in this House; and that the State's Attorney, for the county of Rutland, be requested to bring forward the evidence to support said complaint.

Wednesday February 28, 1787.

Agreeable to order, the house took under consideration the complaint of Col. Brownson against Jonathan Fassett, Esq., which was read, and Mr. Fassett not appearing, the evidence in support of the complaint being heard, the question was put, whether said complaint is supported, and that Jonathan Fassett, Esq., be expelled from his seat as a member of this House? The yeas and nays on the question were required by Mr. Freeman, they stand as follows, viz.: :

*Yea*s — Mr. Dewey, Mr. Goodrich, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Speaker, Mr. O. Smith, Mr. Canfield, Mr. Brownson, Mr. Gray, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Bristol, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Chipman, Mr. J. Burt, Mr. Marvin, Mr. Randall, Mr. Merriman, Mr. Marsh, Judge Ward, Mr. Higley, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Asabel Smith, Mr. Mott, Mr. C. Carpenter, Mr. Wilson, Mr. B. Burt, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Bridgman, Mr. Clark, Mr. Spanlding, Mr. Jewet, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Wells, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Cook, Mr. Aiken, Mr. Hudson, Mr. Burgiss, Captain Ward, Mr. B. Brown, Mr. Bisbee, Mr. Hubbard, Mr. Davison, Mr. Brigham, Mr. Heald, Mr. Emmons, Mr. Weld, Mr. Abida Smith, Mr. Green, Mr. Cosseen, Mr. J. Carpenter, Mr. Parkhurst, Mr. Bliss, Mr. Rosbrooks, Mr. Steel, Mr. Bartholomew, Mr. Hall, Mr. P. Brown, Mr. Ferris, Mr. S. Lane, Mr. Loid, Mr. J. Lane, Mr. Pierce, Mr. Butterfield.

So it passed unanimously in the affirmative.

"Thursday, March 1, 1787.

Mr. Chipman, State's Attorney for the county of Rutland, presented a bill of cost on the complaint against Jonathan Fassett, Esq., as follows:

Two Subpœnas,	0— 2—0
Serving ditto on Esq. Drury and Mr. Moulton,	3—12—0
Cost of taking depositions taxed by Esq. Drury,	0—19—6
Esq. Drury's travel 70 miles and Mr. Moulton's travel,	1—14—7
Subpœna and serving on Col. Clark and others,	0— 6—0
Four witnesses attendance one day each,	0— 8—0
Attorney's fees,	1—10—0
Attendance eight days,	0—16—0
Clerk's fees,	0— 2—6

	£9—10—7

Whereupon the General Assembly

Resolved, That the Treasurer pay to Darius Chipman, Esq., £9: 10: 7. in hard money orders, for cost of prosecuting the impeachment against Jonathan Fassett, Esq., and that he pay the same to the several persons that the same is due to.

Resolved, That Jonathan Fassett, Esq., pay to the Treasurer of this State the sum of nine pounds ten shillings and seven pence, lawful money, as cost of prosecution on an impeachment exhibited to this Assembly against him, by Col. Gideon Brownson; and that the State's Attorney for the county of Rutland, be, and he is hereby directed, to collect the same of the said Jonathan Fassett, and pay the same into the treasury of this State."

On the first Tuesday of January, 1787, The votes on the establishment of a Bank were as follows: Yeas 450, Nays 2197. On the passage of a General Tender Act, Yeas 150, Nays 881.

The votes in the Town of Pittsford were for the establishment of a Bank 3, against a Bank 25; For a General Tender Act none, against such an Act 38.

During the latter part of this period an event occurred which was long remembered, and should be recorded that those who now live may, by comparison, better appreciate the bless-

ings which are lavished upon them. The year 1788 was noted for a severe famine which prevailed throughout Vermont, some other parts of New England and Canada. It is thus described by one* then living in this town, and probably one of the very few now living who have any personal knowledge of it :

"There was at that time, commencing as soon as April and lasting until harvest, a scarcity of bread which caused great suffering throughout Vermont, the newer parts of New York and Canada. Most of the people had one cow and a pair of oxen. The pasture was the woods after the first of May. The plains had been burned over a few years before this, and the Lord sent us that year a wonderful crop of wintergreen berries to begin with, and then strawberries, raspberries and blackberries in succession. There were a few families in town that had a competency, but only a few, and these imparted to others and put their own families upon rations to keep others from starving. Children were dispersed through the day to obtain berries, and the cow would give us some milk at night, and a handful of berries to a person or child, and a small piece of bread baked in a pan, for it would not do to have a loaf of bread, as it would be in danger of being devoured at once. But the good mother would take, at every meal, a certain quantity of flour, just enough to make one cake, that would be faithfully divided and the rest must be made up with milk and berries and this must answer for two meals; and for dinner we had greens and sometimes a small allowance of meat with a few mouthfuls of bread. But many families were without bread or meat for weeks. The material for bread was not in the country; no money could procure it because it was not here. Corn was brought from Virginia to Troy, and from thence to Pittsford in an ox cart, on such a road as a new country furnished. A team would go and return in about ten days and bring, with two yokes of oxen, twenty-five bushels of Southern

* Rev. Simeon Parmelee.

corn. One man—I will not call his name for he is dead, and I hope in heaven, for he expected to go there, but he was rather a selfish man—brought a number of bushels of old wheat to mill after harvest, and my grandfather, who was then the miller, gave this man a severe reproof for keeping his wheat when his neighbors were starving. His excuse was that he did not think it good economy to thrash new wheat as soon as it goes into the barn. Multitudes were offering to labor for their board. There were not many in that town that were as much straightened as many in neighboring towns. In Chittenden, Pittsfield and newer towns, and nearer the mountains, they suffered more. In some places, such was the severity of the famine that many could accomplish but little labor, and they had forebodings lest another year would be more distressing than the present. Let us now cast our eyes abroad and institute a comparison of the present condition of our country with the state of things that we witnessed in our country then. Then our country was comparatively a wilderness, and now it is a fruitful field. Then we had cabins, but now temples; then corduroy roads and now rails. Then it was long trust, and often imprisonment for debt, now the latter is not allowed, and as a rule it is ready pay. Men now fail, and are reckless and imprudent, but there is no difficulty if we have not bread enough in Vermont or New York, we can go to Iowa, Texas or California for it, and it need not cost us very dear. God has blessed our land with plenty and with means of obtaining it from any section, and we are a very wicked people if we are not truly thankful for these blessings scattered broadcast over the land."

The writer of the foregoing extract feels confident that the famine was in 1788, though we find some writers assert that it was in 1789, and others that it was in 1790.

"The scarcity was attributed to the too rapid filling up of the country. The few who had made clearings and brought

their land into a state of cultivation, were not able to raise provisions sufficient to sustain themselves, and all those who were so constantly seeking to settle here, from the older States."* This was a serious condition, and was made still more so by the difficulty of transporting provisions from abroad.

In connection with the history of this trying period, some notice should be taken of Ebenezer Drury, Esq., a man of large heart and uncommon benevolence, and whose sympathies embraced the needy of all classes. He was not in affluent circumstances, but he was ready, at all times, to divide his "staff of life" with his suffering neighbors. He made a special effort to learn the circumstance of every family in the township, and he not only imparted to the needy from his own stores, but he collected from his wealthier neighbors and distributed among the destitute. Almost every day he could be seen, on horseback, conveying packages of provisions to families in straitened circumstances. By reason of these acts the trials of many were greatly mitigated, and they were enabled to pass through this period of famine without suffering the pangs of starvation. By such deeds Mr. Drury merited and received the gratitude of the people of the town.

* History of Salisbury.

CHAPTER VII.

Immigrants and their Locations continued; Extracts from the Proprietors' Records; Settlement of the Land-title Controversy; Vermont admitted into the Union; Payment of \$30,000. 1790—1800.

During the next ten years, the agitation occasioned by the war having subsided, the population of the town went on gradually increasing, while new openings were continually made in the forest, a greater breadth of soil was brought under the influence of husbandry, and the machinery of civil government was moving gracefully along. This prosperous state of things, combined with the natural fertility of soil, made the township a desirable one for enterprising young men, who wished to make pleasant homes for themselves in some promising region.

Among the number who located here in 1790, we find Abraham Drury, John Woodward, Samuel Copley, Phineas Hammond, Abraham Carpenter, Adget Lathrop and Nathan B. Graham.

Abraham Drury was a nephew of Ebenezer Drury and grandson of Daniel Drury of Shrewsbury, Mass., but his father's christian name we have not been able to obtain. He was born in Shrewsbury, came to Pittsford in 1790, and purchased the westerly half of the Joshua Woodward farm, or what constitutes the farm now owned by Frank B. Barnes. The road at that time, it will be remembered, passed considerably to the west of the present road and about sixty rods southwest of the present residence of Mr. Barnes, made a short turn from a southwesterly to a southeasterly direction and upon that

corner Mr. Drury built a house.* He married Abigail, daughter of Joshua Morse, and resided there till 1804, when he built the house now owned by Mr. Barnes on the present road. His wife Abigail died about the year 1800, and he married Lucy, daughter of Abijah Tucker, March 8, 1802. He afterwards moved to the State of Ohio where he died.

Calvin Drury, the second son of Ebenezer, was born in Templeton, Mass., May 8, 1765, came to Pittsford with other members of his father's family, and married Azubia, daughter of Rev. Eleazer Harwood, about the year 1790. He located on the home farm upon which he built a house which stood about three rods north of the house now owned by the heirs of the late Austin Andrews. His wife Azubia died about 1824, and he married Sarah, daughter of Jacob Weed, September 22, 1825. He was industrious, frugal, of sound judgment, and took a deep interest in everything pertaining to the prosperity of the town and the Christian Church.

John Woodward was the eldest son of Joshua, of whom some account has been given. We find but little upon the records relating to the Woodward family, and it is not known to the writer where any member of it now lives. John was probably born in Watertown, Mass., before his parents moved to Pittsford, since he was old enough to take an active part in the Revolutionary war, as has appeared in the account of that struggle. He married and located on the homestead with his mother, his father having been killed in the war. He had two brothers, Joshua, Jr., and Amos, both of whose interests in the home farm he bought in February, 1792; the former at that time resided in Harkmore, N. Y. John's first wife died, and he married, for a second wife, a daughter of Abijah Tucker. He resided in the house built by his father till the year 1802, when he built and began to occupy the house now owned by C. Bowen. A few years later he moved to New York.

* The land on which the house stood was purchased of Joshua Morse.

Samuel Copley resided in Pittsford some fourteen or fifteen years, but we know nothing of his early life or residence. He purchased eighty-eight acres of land of Josiah Eddy, and this appears to have included the south part of Eddy's home farm. In the deed Copley is said to be of Clarendon. He resided in a house which he built about thirty rods south of the residence of Mr. Eddy, and a little southeast of Abraham Drury's. He moved to the State of New York about the year 1804.

Phineas Hammond was the second son of Daniel, of Newton, and was born June 4, 1755. About the year 1790, he came to Pittsford, but it does not appear that he bought any real estate till some years later. He married and resided a few years in the house built or repaired by Caleb Hendee, Jr., on the farm now owned by A. and J. Richardson; he afterwards occupied a house which stood in what is now Abraham Owen's garden. Later still he went to New Orleans where he died.

Abraham Carpenter was born in Rehoboth, Mass., September 23, 1739, and in the French war he enlisted in the army and was sent through the wilderness to Crown Point Fort, where he remained through one summer, acting, the most of that time, as one of the guard at that fortress. How long he remained in the army we are not informed, but when his term of service had expired, he returned to Rehoboth and commenced studying for the ministry. He married Elizabeth Bliss, also of Rehoboth, who was born April 5, 1738, and after their marriage they went to reside in Killingly, Conn., from which town they removed to Plainfield, N. H., in 1774. He was there ordained and settled over a Congregational Church, the first in the township. From Plainfield he removed to Whipple Hollow, and of his labors there we shall have something to say hereafter.

Adget Lathrop was the son of Cyprian and Mary Lathrop, and was born in Connecticut, Aug. 29, 1764. He was a carpenter and joiner, and wrought at his trade some years in his

native State, but at length came to Pittsford, married Martha, daughter of Joshua Morse, January 13, 1790, and located, in the fall of the same year, on the farm which has been mentioned, as having been first improved by Adonijah Montagne. On the tenth day of September, 1792, he bought of Peter Powers the farm which had been, for some years, occupied and improved by Jonathan Finsett. He removed to Sturbridge about the year 1816, and died there April 10, 1840. Mrs. Martha Lathrop died* in Geneva, N. Y., about the year 1850.

We have no knowledge of the ancestors of Nathan B. Graham. He was brother of John A. Graham of Rindge, was educated as a lawyer and located in this town in 1790. He purchased of James Ewings the house-lot now owned by J. A. Randall, and built upon it what was long known as the gambrel-roof house. He practiced his profession here till the spring of 1796, when he removed to Boston, Mass.

We find the following among those who located here in 1791, viz.: Milton Potter, Rufus Ward, Israel Keith and sons —Scotland, Daniel and Alfred.

Milton Potter was born in New Fairfield, Conn., in 1763. His father was a physician and educated his son for the same profession; but Milton preferred the life of a farmer. At the age of about fourteen he enlisted in the army and remained in the service till the close of the war, taking an active part in many of the hard-fought battles of the Revolution. He was one of the men who rowed Arnold to the Vulture, on the Hudson, when he fled from West Point, and was by that traitor delivered over to the British as a prisoner of war, but was afterwards set at liberty by Sir Henry Clinton, who, in this instance, had no sympathy with Arnold's meanness. He witnessed the execution of Andre, participated in most of the military movements upon the Hudson river, and near the close of the war, received a Captain's commission, signed by

* She died from the effects of a fall which dislocated her neck.

Washington. After the war he returned to New Fairfield and married Esther Cone, whose father was a merchant at East Haddam, Conn., and who, on the breaking out of the war, was in Liverpool, England, with a cargo of merchandise which was taken by the British government and confiscated, and its owner imprisoned. By the aid of friends he was released and returned to America, but he had lost his property. He enlisted in the army, very soon after his return, and having been taken prisoner by the British he was confined in a sugar-house in the city of New York, where he soon died.

Capt. Potter came to Pittsford in 1791, and bought of Elias Hopkins, Jr., forty-four acres of land bounded as follows: "Beginning at a hemlock stub standing near the Great Bridge, on Stephen Mead's north line; thence running northerly, with the highway, to John Burnes' land on the west of the highway; thence running westerly on said Burnes' land to an elm stub marked, and standing in the northeast corner of Stephen Mead's land; thence southerly on said Mead's line to a stake and stones, near a beach staddle marked; from thence easterly on said Mead's line to the first-mentioned bounds."

Mr. Hopkins had made some improvements on this land, but to what extent is not now known. Mr. Potter built a house and barn on the place, the former of which is still standing, but the latter has been removed, and is now one of T. D. Hall's barns. Mr. Potter resided in Pittsford till 1839, when he went to Whiting to live with his son James A., and died there, July 2, 1840.

We can learn but little of Rufus Ward, though he is reputed to have been a son of William, the early settler. It is supposed that he married about the year 1791, but where he first located is not now known. It is certain that he owned land on West Hill near Hubbardton line, and that he cleared some of it, though he never located there. About the year 1806, he purchased a few acres of land on the east side of the road leading

north by the residence of Benjamin Stevens, Sen. The house* in which he lived is still standing on the high ground east of the road, and about eighty rods in a northeasterly direction from where Mr. Stevens' house stood. This family left town many years ago.

The Keith family was from Easton, Massachusetts. We are informed that Col. Israel Keith was a graduate of Harvard University, and that after leaving the University he married and located in Boston, where he accumulated considerable property. He came to Pittsford in the summer of 1791, and purchased of Joseph Hitchcock three acres, which included the land upon which the furnace now stands. The deed was dated Aug. 3d, and was "in consideration of six pounds L. M." In the fall of that year he constructed a furnace and commenced the manufacture of iron, but did not remove his family to Pittsford till about the year 1800, when he located on the farm which has been mentioned as having been first improved by Jacob Weed. He bought this place and occupied the house built by Mr. Weed till his death in 1821. His father, Zephaniah, came here, also, about the same time, and located in the house which has been mentioned as the residence of Amasa Weed, now the Cyrus Dike place. The house in which he lived stood seven or eight rods in a southwesterly direction from the present house.

Scothrod removed here from Easton in 1795, and on the 4th day of July he purchased of Col. Keith one-eighth part of the furnace and its adjuncts, and became one of the firm of Keith & Co.

Daniel married a Simmons, of Easton, and located where W. Morseman now lives. He built the house now owned by Mr. M. in 1800.

Alfred located on land now owned by E. Randall. He

* This house was built by Abraham Owen, Sen., on the farm now owned by Richard and Charles Burdett, and was purchased and removed to its present location by Mr. Ward.

purchased this, one hundred and thirty acres, of Elisha Eich, Dec. 10, 1793.

The men who located here in 1792, were Ozias Crampton, Daniel Carpenter, Alexander Ewings, William Baxter, Luther Wicker, James Wicker, Frederick Wicker, Jeremiah Needham, Daniel Lee, Oliver Bogne, and Jeremiah Powers, Sen.

Of the early life of Ozias Crampton we know nothing. He came to Pittsford in 1792 and had the title of Doctor, but we cannot learn that he ever practised medicine. He married Anna, daughter of John Hitchcock, and resided a few years in the house which was built and occupied by Mr. Hitchcock when he first came into the township. It stood a few rods north of the house now owned and occupied by S. H. Kellogg, Esq. He and Joseph Hitchcock, his wife's eldest brother, bought the grist-mill and one-half of the saw-mill, the former built by Elisha Rich and the latter by Elisha Adams who still retained one-half of it. This purchase was made of John Rotchem March 9, 1792, and the consideration was two hundred pounds. In 1800 Mr. Crampton sold his real estate in Pittsford and moved to Pennsylvania where he afterwards died. His widow and three sons returned to Pittsford, and in a few months she married a man by the name of Crossman and resided in the house standing in the lot northwest of the residence of John Hitchcock, and now owned by H. F. Lothrop.

The father of Daniel Carpenter was born in England, came to America when a young man, married Hannah Needham and settled in Greenwich, Mass., where his son was born. The latter, about the year 1775, married Lucy Nichols and located in South Wilbraham where were born the following children, viz.: 1st, Polly, born Nov. 27, 1776; 2d, John; 3d, Artemas; 4th, Daniel; 5th, Caleb; 6th, Lucy.

Mr. Carpenter made his first purchase in Ladd Hollow,*

* Ladd Hollow included a part of Chittenden and that part of Pittsford now known as East Pittsford.

Pittsford, Aug. 11, 1792. This purchase consisted of one hundred acres of land, "bounded on the north by Nathaniel Ladd, on the east by town line; on the south by the Governor's right, and extends so far west as to include one hundred acres." This land is described as "lying on Little River called East Creek," and was purchased of John Simonds of Leominster, Mass., being a part of the second-division of the original right of John Hubbard. It is not known what time he removed his family into Pittsford, but probably soon after he made his purchase here. He and Nathaniel Ladd* are reported to have been the first two settlers in Ladd Hollow. Mr. Carpenter made his first clearing and built a log house about where Mrs. Eddy now lives. He afterwards built a house farther south, where his son Artemas lived many years. It is now owned by D. Gould. Mr. Carpenter died in 1811.

Alexander Ewings, son of Rev. Alexander Ewings and brother of James, of whom some account has been given, was a physician by profession. He married and located in Pittsford in 1792. His first purchase of real estate was on the 23d day of March, and it consisted of the buildings and two acres of land† then but recently owned and occupied by Amos Webster. It is evident from the records that Mr. Webster had, at this time, built a house on the southwest corner of this lot which was identical with the lot now owned by the heirs of the late George B. Armington, M. D. Mr. Ewings undoubtedly resided for a short period in the first house built by Mr. Webster, on the lot now owned by Willard Randall, though it is known that he afterwards occupied the newer house built on what is now known as the Armington lot. About the year 1801, he bought of Joseph Hooper the place now occupied by John C. Leonard and resided there till the 9th of May, 1805, when he

* Mr. Ladd was there some years before Mr. Carpenter.

† This was purchased of Amos Smith of Shrewsbury, who had purchased it the same day of Amos Webster, together with twenty-six and two-thirds acres additional land.

sold all his real estate in this town, consisting of twenty-two acres of land with the buildings thereon, to John Merriam, the price received being one thousand dollars. After disposing of his real estate in Pittsford he removed to Canada, since which time we have heard nothing from him.

William Baxter, from Rutland, purchased of Joseph Hitchcock several acres of land on Furnace brook, including one-half of the saw-mill, the other half being owned by Elisha Adams. The deed was dated April 24, 1792, and was in "consideration of two hundred pounds, L. M." He married a Buell, of Rutland. It is not now known where he resided when he first moved into the town; but in 1797, he was living in a small house which stood about where Dr. E. H. Drury's house now stands. He changed locations quite often. The last place he occupied in this town, was the red house now owned by Josiah Leonard, and standing a few rods north of the one he occupies. Some of Mr. Baxter's traits were peculiar, and afforded him a degree of distinction. He was very loquacious, and he had the faculty of keeping his listeners in a continual state of laughter. He removed to Massena, N. Y., about the year 1830.

But little relating to the Wicker family has been obtained. Frederick, in his first deed of land purchased in this town, is said to have been "of Easton in the county of Albany and State of New York," and this may have been the former residence of his two brothers, who evidently came to Pittsford about the same time.

Lather's first purchase was made by Elijah Herrick, and consisted of one hundred acres in the easterly part of the town, adjoining a lot owned by Amasa Ladd, the deed being dated May 5, 1792. On the 18th day of July, 1796, he purchased of Nathan Hewitt sixty-five acres which included the farm now owned by M. Mehan. Mr. Hewitt had built a house on that lot and made some other improvements; but Mr. Wicker made

many more improvements, and continued to reside there till his death.

Frederick had no very permanent residence in the town.

James, on the 13th of April, 1794, purchased of Stephen Esty one hundred and thirty-five acres which included a large proportion of the land recently owned by the Town of Pittsford and occupied as a Town Farm* in the support of the poor.

Mr. Esty made the first clearing on that farm and built a house near where the present house now stands, and in this he resided nearly two years. Mr. Wicker lived on that farm a few years, and then sold it and left the town.

James and Luther were both religious men, and preachers of the Methodist doctrine, and so far as we can learn were faithful and devoted Christians.

Jeremiah Needham was born in South Brimfield, Mass., Feb. 20, 1766. His father, Jeremiah, also a native of the same town married Elizabeth Gardner and had the following children born there, viz: Jeremiah, Elisha, Anna, Charles and Rebecca, the last two being twins. The father died in Wilmington, N. Y., August, 1815; the mother died in Ferrisburgh, Vt., 1819.

Jeremiah, the eldest son, married Ruth, daughter of Col. Benjamin Cooley of Pittsford, May 31, 1792. It is not now known where he first located but in 1797, he bought the north half of the farm first occupied by Gideon Cooley, and for four or five years resided in a house which had been built and occupied by Jacob Cooley, son of Gideon. This house stood on the west side of the road and about eight rods in a south-westerly direction from the house now owned by Mr. Mead. In 1801, he purchased the easterly part of the farm first improved by his father-in-law. The land included in this pur-

* This farm was sold by the Town to A. Judson Smith, in March, 1870.

chase is now mostly owned by Jeremiah C. and Artemas C. Powers, and has long been known as the Needham farm. The house Mr. Needham occupied during his residence in this part of the township stood on the north side of the road and about five rods from the easterly end of the bridge near Col. Cooley's. The most of his time was devoted to farming, though he occasionally worked at shoemaking, a trade he learned in his younger days. He was a very good penman, and some specimens of his writings may be seen upon the town records, he having been employed by Col. Cooley to do a part of his writing while he held the clerkship. On the 26th of June, 1806, Mr. Needham removed to North Elba, Essex Co., N. Y.

Daniel Lee was the grandson of Thomas who was born in London, England, and possessed so wild a nature that his father bound him to a stern cooper to learn a trade, hoping thereby to curb his wild passions and soften his nature. Young Lee mastered his trade and it was, at length, the means of saving his life. When his term of service had expired he went to sea, and in every voyage he encountered difficulties. Twice he was shipwrecked, and eventually he was taken prisoner by pirates, who, when they learned that he was a cooper, spared his life while they put to death the rest of the crew. He then made a solemn vow that if he should ever get ashore, wherever it might be, he would never again go to sea. One night, while in the vicinity of the coast of Massachusetts, he managed to get into a boat and escape to the shore. He married and had two sons, Thomas and Daniel. The former, who figured quite conspicuously in the Revolutionary war, was captain of a company of Rangers, and was afterwards commander of a regiment. He resided, during the latter part of his life, in Rutland, on the farm now owned by Nahm Johnson. Daniel married and resided in this town some years. He purchased the confiscated lands of Roger Stevens, Jr., Oct. 10, 1792, but sold them to John Barnes, Sept. 2, 1793. He afterwards purchased of

Peter Sutherland the Gideon Cooley farm, upon which he resided till he sold it to Robert Loveland, Aug. 29, 1798. He left the town soon after this sale.

Oliver Bogue was born in Farmington, Conn., April 13, 1757. In 1778, he married Lucy Derrin of Guilford, who was born Feb. 15, 1762, and they first located in Farmington; but in March, 1788, they removed to Chittenden,* Vt., where they resided four years. They then came to Pittsford and resided four years on the farm which had been occupied by Joshua Morse, and one year on the Jonathan Fassett farm. On the 21st day of February, 1797, Mr. Bogue bought of Philemon Mossey fifty-four acres; and on the 25th day of September following, he bought of Samuel and Stephen Hopkins fifty-one and one-half acres which included the greater part of the farm now owned by Charles Mussey. Some time that year he cleared land and built a house into which he moved his family. Mr. and Mrs. Bogue spent the remainder of their days on that farm. The former died February 22, 1828, and the latter October 16, 1850.

Jeremiah Powers,† Sen., father of the Jeremiah who has been mentioned, removed from Greenwich to Pittsford in 1792, and located in Sugar Hollow, on a lot of land now constituting the farm owned by William Nicholas. He made the first improvements on that farm and built the house that is there. His wife, Elizabeth, was a daughter of Benjamin Cooley of Greenwich. Mr. Powers died in Pittsford, June 2, 1801; Mrs. Powers died Aug. 17, 1823.

The immigrants in 1793, were Nathan Hewitt, James Barnes, Bildad Orcutt and Hiram Hopkins.

Nathan Hewitt was a native of Easton, Mass., where he married Mary Finney and resided some years. In 1793, he came to Pittsford and bought of Elijah Harrick sixty-five acres

* The part called New Boston.

† Born in Greenwich, Dec. 25, 1775.

of land which included the farm now owned by M. Mehan. The deed was dated June 18th, and was in consideration of £24, L. M. He built a log house on the north side of the present road near a large boulder, and removed his family here in the fall of that year.

James Barnes spent the most of his minority in New Fairfield, Conn. He married Experience Bangs of Cape Cod, and for several years devoted his time to farming. At the opening of the Revolutionary war, he entered the army and served as lieutenant, a title which he ever afterwards bore. His eldest son, Ithiel, accompanied him in all his military movements. After the war he returned to New Fairfield, where he lived till 1793, when he removed to Pittsford, his son Ithiel having then resided here nearly four years. He made the first improvements, and located on the farm now owned by Mr. Griswold in Whipple Hollow, but during the latter part of his life he resided with his son-in-law, Alfred Buck, and died there in 1809. Mrs. Experience Barnes died at her son Ithiel's, in 1825.

Bildad Orcutt was a son of William Orcutt who once resided near where Chas. T. Colburn now lives. We have no knowledge of his birth-place, but he came into the town with his father's family, married Anna, daughter of Elisha Adams, Sen., and located in a house on the west side of the road and near the residence of Simeon Parmelee, Sen. He purchased twelve acres of land here, the deed of which was dated Aug. 14, 1793, and was in consideration of £6 12s., L. M. His residence was here some years, but being a carpenter by trade, much of his time was spent away from home in the prosecution of his business. He changed his dwelling place several times in this town, and at length removed with his family to Malone, N. Y.

Hiram Hopkins, son of Noah, was born in Nine Partners, Dutchess County, N. Y., Jan. 16, 1772. He married Rache

Spotten* of New York city, February 3, 1793, and located on the Ripley farm in Pittsford. He was a carpenter and joiner by trade and did not devote much attention to farming. He changed his location several times while a resident of Pittsford, and about the year 1808, moved to Middlebury where he resided some years, and from thence he removed to Rutland where he died Nov. 23, 1847. Mrs. Hopkins also died in Rutland, April 30, 1839.

Among those who came here in 1794, we find Samuel Fairfield, Stephen Esty, Abraham Walker, James Hewitt, Josiah Taft, Samuel Craft, Israel Purdy, Benjamin Chaffee and Abner Needham.

Samuel Fairfield was the eldest son of Nathaniel, and was born in Connecticut before the family removed to New Hampshire. He married Martha Gallop of Plainfield, and located on the home farm with his parents.

We can learn little of Stephen Esty. He was in Pittsford as early as 1792, but we are unable to fix his residence till 1794. The 7th of August in that year he purchased of Samuel Williams, of Rutland, the farm which had been first improved and occupied by David Crippen and afterwards by his son Darius.†

Abraham Walker, from Brookfield, Mass., purchased of Roger Stevens the farm upon which the latter had resided from 1770; the deed of the purchase bears date March 10, 1794. On the 21st of April 1795, he purchased of Nathan Osgood, of Rutland, twenty-six and two-thirds acres which included the place in the Village now owned by Mrs. Augustine Gorham, together with a part of the farm owned by S. D. Winslow. Osgood had obtained this on an execution against

* Born Feb. 7, 1773.

† Darius Crippen sold this place to Elias Williams who sold it to Samuel, but neither of the latter ever resided on it.

Augustine Hibbard on the 13th of the same month. Whether Mr. Walker resided one year on the Stevens place is not now known, but soon after he made his purchase in the Village he built and occupied a house which stood about where Mrs. Gorham's house now stands, and on the 30th of August, 1796, he sold the Stevens place to his son Tilly, who occupied the same some years.

James Hewitt was the son of Henry and Rachel (Kinney) Hewitt, and was born in Stonington, Conn., Feb. 23, 1771. He came to Vermont in 1787, and in June, 1794, married Phebe Mead of Rutland, who was born Feb. 13, 1774. On the 10th of November, 1795, he purchased of David Finney of Rutland, eighty-two and three-fourths acres of land which included the most of the farm now owned by his son, Seth H. Hewitt. After making a clearing he built a house in which he resided till his death, April 8, 1858. Mrs. Phebe Hewitt died August 8, 1855.

Josiah Taft from Douglas, Mass., came here about this time, married — Drury. During his residence here he changed locations several times. He resided a few years on the farm now owned by Jeremiah Leonard, then moved to a house which stood near the turn in the road a little east of Israel Brewster's, and finally he occupied for a short time a house which stood near where Seth Hudson now resides. He died suddenly about the year 1844.

Samuel Craft was a tailor by trade. We have no knowledge of his parentage or early life. We first hear of him in 1794, when he bought of Augustine Hibbard the place now owned by Mrs. Mary Barnes. In 1797, he was living in what was long known as the "gambrel-roof house" which stood where the brick house now stands, owned by Jeffrey A. Randall, and at the same time he had a shop in a part of the house formerly owned by Elias Hopkins.

Israel Purdy, from Litchfield, Conn., came here about this

time and located on land now owned by D. J. Griffith; the house he occupied stood a few rods west of the site of Mr. G.'s barn. After residing there a few years he removed to Brandon where he died.

Benjamin Chaffee was born in Rehoboth, Mass., Aug. 7, 1768. In early life he became a blacksmith and followed this occupation many years. On the 16th of January, 1794, he married Judith Fuller, who was born September 28, 1770, in Rehoboth. Immediately after their marriage they came to Pittsford and located on the farm now owned by their son Demas. Here they spent the remainder of their days. Mr. Chaffee died Dec. 26, 1850; Mrs. Chaffee, March 26, 1835.

Abner Needham came here in 1794, married Melinda, daughter of Stephen Mead, and located on a part of the Matson farm. The house in which he resided stood in what is now I. C. Wheaton's pasture, and a little west of his sugar house. Mrs. Needham was the mother of thirteen children before she was quite thirty-six years of age.

Among those who became residents of the town in 1795, were Daniel Warren, Renel Keith, Matthew Hopkins, Alfred Buck, Nathan, Cornelius and Thomas Gibbs, John Train, Samuel Jones, Jr., Azariah Newcomb and John Miller.

Daniel Warren, from Massachusetts, purchased the place which had been first improved and occupied by Elias Hopkins, Sen. This purchase included one acre of land with the buildings thereon, and the deed bears date Aug. 3, 1795. Soon after this purchase Elisha Warren, a hatter by trade, occupied the place, but whether he was a son or brother of Daniel has not come to light. A part of the house was occupied as a hat shop. Daniel remained in the town but a short time, and Elisha moved away about the year 1813.

Renel Keith, son of the Israel who has been mentioned, bought of Ebenezer Gibbs eleven acres of land, "bounded on the north by land which Nathan Webster sold to Augustine

Hibbard, east on the Pine Lots, south on Alexander Ewings' land and west on the highway." The deed bears date February 5, 1795. He built a house four or five rods south of the present residence of Benjamin Kemp and resided there till about the year 1803, when he sold the place to Dr. William Frisbie and became proprietor of the Webster tavern. He moved to Shelburne about the year 1813.

Matthew Hopkins, son of Nehemiah, married Mercy, daughter of Stephen Mead, Feb. 17, 1795, and resided some months in the house which had been built by his brother Ebenezer, near the grist-mill. He and his brothers, Ebenezer and Martin, had, as early as 1791, purchased the saw-mill, which stood on the north side of the brook opposite the grist-mill, and the most of his time was improved either in the saw-mill or grist-mill. He changed his location several times while a resident of the town, and eventually moved to the State of Ohio where he died.

Alfred Buck, son of Isaac, married Marcia, daughter of James Barnes, in 1795, and located on the farm now owned by G. and L. Hendee. He cleared the most of the cultivated part of that farm, and first resided in a log house on the east side of the road a little north of the present white cottage; afterwards he built another log house on the west side of the road, on ground now occupied by the garden. He built the red house on the west side of the road in 1803, and in this he resided till his death, May 23, 1842.

The Gibbs family were from Eastern Massachusetts. On the 4th day of July, 1795, Nathan Gibbs purchased of Israel Keith one undivided fourth part of the Furnace property, both real and personal. That summer he moved his family to Pittsford and resided in the house which stood where the brick house now stands. He carried on the furnace business in company with his brother, Cornelius Gibbs, Edward Kingman* and

* Kingman was also from Eastern Massachusetts.

Luke Reed, to each of whom Keith deeded one undivided fourth part of the furnace property. Cornelius and his brother, Thomas Gibbs, came here about this time and built a house which is now the first south of the school house, and in that the two families resided some years. Nathan Gibbs married Caroline Powers some time before he came to this town. Cornelius married Hope Pierce, Nov. 25, 1803.

On the 4th day of December, 1797, Nathan Gibbs bought of Edward Kingman the one-fourth interest he had in the Furnace property, and soon after he bought the remaining two-fourths and then he had the whole management of the Furnace business. He is reputed to have been a man of great energy and strictly honest, but much given to the exercise of authority over those whom he employed, and in consideration of this trait in his character he obtained the appellation, by which he was generally known, of "Muster Gibbs."

John Train, from Clarendon, bought of Nathan Osgood of Rutland, two pieces of land in Pittsford. The first contained about sixty acres, lay east of Otter Creek, and was bounded as follows, viz.: "Beginning at about three rods from the gate on the bank of Otter Krick on the road that leads to Captain Potter's, thence north eighty-seven rods to a beach tree, thence West 15° South to the River, thence up the River to the first bounds." The second piece contained about eighteen acres and included the Webster tavern. The deed bears date April 23, 1795, and was in consideration of £300, L. M. Mr. Train resided in the tavern till about the year 1802, when he left the town.

Samuel Jones, Jr., from Wallingford, bought of Nathan B. Graham, of Rutland, one hundred acres of land in Pittsford, bounded as follows, viz.: "Beginning at stake and stones at Noah Waite's southwest corner, from thence on the town line west, five degrees north one hundred and eighty rods or more to Dennis Burgess northwest corner, from thence north five

degrees East about seventy-six Rods to a stake and stones, being the half distance from the south line of said lot to Jonathan Warner's south line of his home farm, thence West two and a half degrees south about two hundred Rods to Noah Wait's West line to a stake and stones, thence South twenty degrees West about eighty-seven Rods to the first mentioned bounds." This included the land now owned by Mr. Dickerman. Mr. Jones made the first improvements on that farm, and the house in which he resided stood some four rods southwest of the barns now on the place. The 25th of August, 1800, he sold his farm to Gardner Powers and left the town.

Azarinh Newcomb, from New Haven, Addison County, Vt., came here early in 1795, and rented the south part, (seventy-four acres) of the Stephen Mead farm for a period of ten years. This land had been sold by Stephen Mead to Caleb Smith who deeded it to James Mead of Rutland, and the latter conveyed it by deed, dated March 8, 1791, to Isaac Purdy of Sharon, Litchfield County, Conn. It appears that Purdy sold one-half of his interest in this property to Nathaniel Buell of Salisbury, Conn., as these two men leased it to Newcomb on the 22d of January, 1795, for an annual rent of "five shillings L. M." Newcomb was to clear and fence a part of the land, and if it was found that at the expiration of ten years he had not received compensation for the improvements, Purdy and Buell were "to make him full satisfaction for what should be wanting." It was also stipulated that in case Newcomb should build a barn on the land Purdy and Buell should find the nails for the same. It would appear from the records that Purdy came here with his family soon after he purchased this land in 1791, and quite likely built the house which stood on the north side of the road leading to Anthony Phillips' and a few rods, only, east of the brook. How long he remained here is unknown, but probably not more than two or three years. It is supposed that Newcomb occupied that place only three or four years, as it is

known that in 1799, he was living in the house which, at that time, stood on the bank, near where H. F. Lothrop's south barn now stands. He was then employed to attend Col. Cooley's saw-mill* which stood on the south side of the brook opposite the house. After Newcomb left the place on the west side of the Creek, the house in which he had lived was sold to John Barnes, and it is now Nelson Loveland's horse barn. The barn which was built by Newcomb was sold to Peter Rice and is now one of the buildings on the farm owned by Ransom Burditt.† Newcomb left Pittsford about the year 1806.

John Miller came here in 1795. We have no knowledge of his birth-place. He bought forty-five acres of Gideon Cooley, Jan. 30, 1795, which land was located on the west side of the road and directly south of the present residence of William Mitchell. The most of this land is now owned by Newell Leonard. He built a log house which stood some twenty rods south of the present residence of Mr. Leonard. A Miss Mary Buell kept his house for him till Jan. 28, 1828, when they decided to become husband and wife, and they were accordingly joined in marriage by Samuel H. Kellogg, Esq. Mr. Miller died about the year 1833. Mrs. Miller died some time afterwards at Hawkins Hart's.

Among those who settled here in 1796, were John Lampson, Samuel Morgan, Anthony Butler, Noadiah Deering, William Sanders, John Penfield, Richard M. Powers, Timothy Jenner, Jonathan Hendee, Isaac Matson, Jr., Tilly Walker, William W. Barlow and Jacob Phillips.

John Lampson from Greenwich, Mass., purchased of Eleazar Warner the farm upon which the latter first settled, in what is now known as Sugar Hollow. The deed was in consideration of £120, L. M., and dated December 20, 1796. He resided there till about the year 1830, when he sold his real

* This mill was carried away by the freshet of 1811.

† The land was sold to Stephen Mead, Jr.

estate in this town and removed to the State of Pennsylvania.

Samuel Morgan, son of Israel, bought of Ithiel Field one hundred acres of land in this town, December 9, 1793. This included what is now the farm owned by James D. Butler. He made a clearing, built a house and married Betsey, daughter of Nehemiah Whipple, in 1796. He resided in this town till 1812, when he removed to Rutland and died there in 1830.

Anthony Butler was born in Boston, Mass., in 1768, became a hatter, married Jernsha Hill and settled in Hardwick. He became a resident of this town in 1796, though he purchased no real estate till the 10th of January, 1797, when he bought of Jonathan Sweet one hundred acres, "being the first division of the original right of Andrew Powers." This included the most of the farm now owned by Allen Mills, but was then subject to the incumbrance of a lease given to David Gitchell, dated March 12, 1796, which lease gave to said Gitchell the privilege of flowing a part of said land for the use of a grist-mill. Mr. Butler sold this farm to Samuel Fairfield and moved to Oxford, Ohio, where he died in February, 1847.

Noadiah Deming was born in Connecticut. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and having been taken prisoner by the Indians was carried to Canada, but was kindly treated. He was permitted to mingle freely with the tribe, and he there became familiar with their habits and customs. He also carefully studied their practice of medicine. Mr. Deming was eventually released from captivity and returned to Connecticut, but in 1796, he purchased of Abraham Drury, of this town, thirty-nine and three-fourths acres of land, the deed being dated May 28th. This purchase included a part of the farm now owned by Simeon Parmelee, and Mr. Deming built a house* some ten rods east of the present residence of Mr. Parmelee. He practiced to some extent the Indian system of medicine and thereby obtained the title of Doctor. He died

* This house was burnt in 1801.

at the residence of his son-in-law, Benjamin Cornish, then residing in Whipple Hollow.

William Sanders was an Englishman by birth, but came to this country* when quite young, and became a carpenter and joiner. He came to this town at length and purchased of Timothy Higley what is now the farm owned by Marshall Thomas. The deed was dated February 11, 1796, and was in consideration of £55, L. M. He married a Mrs. Soule and resided here till about the year 1804, when he sold his farm to Nathan Whitmore and moved to Canada.

John Penfield was born in Fairfield, Connecticut, November 5, 1747, and in 1770, married Eunice Ogden who was born in Fairfield in 1753. He served some months in the Revolutionary war, and in 1795, he came to Pittsford and bought of Ebenezer Hopkins the grist-mill built by Nehemiah Hopkins, Sen., and some land in the vicinity, the deed being dated September 7, 1795. The following February he moved his family into this town and resided in the house now owned by William B. Shaw. In December following he opened a public house which he kept till 1811.

Richard M. Powers, son of Jeremiah, formerly of Greenwich, Mass., was born December 25, 1775, and on the 9th of March, 1796, he married Polly Carpenter who was born in South Wilbraham, Mass., Nov. 27, 1775, but at the time of their marriage was residing in her father's family in Chittenden, Vt. Mr. Powers had resided in Pittsford three or four years before his marriage, and in 1795, he purchased the land and commenced improvements on what has since been known as the Wright place, on the west side of the road near where John May resided. He built a house there in the fall of 1795, and the next spring after his marriage commenced housekeeping. On the 3d of October, 1797, he sold this place to Robert Wright

* He spent several years in New Fairfield, Conn.

and soon after bought the James Ewings farm, the most of which is now owned by his sons, Jeremiah C. and Artemas C. Powers. He resided a few years in the Ewings house, and then built the house on the east side of the road, nearly opposite the old one. Here he resided till his death February 28, 1848. Mrs. Polly Powers died October 12, 1863.

Timothy Jenner, eldest son of Stephen, married Ruth Hurlbut and located on land given to him by his father. This land included a part of the farm now owned by the heirs of the late James R. Smith. Mr. Jenner cleared the land and built a log house on the east side of the road about where Mrs. Smith's garden is, and in this he resided till 1803, when he built a frame house* on the west side of the road about where Mrs. Smith's house now stands. About the year 1815, he removed to the western part of the State of New York.

Jonathan Hendee, second son of Deacon Caleb, bought a farm which is now mostly owned by Roswell Woodeock. He built a house a few rods east of the present residence of David Ward, married Sarah Squires, daughter of Deacon Caleb Hendee's second wife, and resided on that farm some years, but in 1820, he sold it to his brother Solomon and moved to Moriah, N. Y. His wife Sarah died, and he married, for his second wife, a lady by the name of Anna Stowe.

Isaac Matson, Jr., son of Isaac the early settler, married and located on his father's farm—the one now owned by Isaac C. Wheaton. The house in which he resided stood on the south side of the road, where the barn-yard now is. He and his brother James bought this farm of their father and resided on it till about the year 1808, when they sold it to Thomas Hammond and moved to the northern part of the State of Pennsylvania.

Tilly Walker, son of Abraham, bought of his father the

*This is the brown house next north of Mrs. Smith's residence. It was removed some years since to its present location.

Roger Stevens place, Aug. 30, 1796. He married and resided on that farm till about the year 1824, when he moved to the State of New York where he soon after died.

William W. Burlow, from Greenwich, Mass., bought* of Simeon Clifford a lot of land lying west of his home farm. He made a clearing and built a log house in which he resided a few years, and then built the house and barn now on that farm which, at the present time, is owned by David Mills. He was a ship calker, and some part of his time was spent in Boston working at his trade. He died in this town about the year 1814. His father, who was a blind man, resided with him a portion of the time.

Jacob Phillips, son of Anthony, married Lucy Weller in 1796, and located on the home farm with his parents. His father gave him a deed of one-half of the farm, November 21, 1796. The son resided on that farm till his death, in March, 1848. Mrs. Lucy Phillips died in March, 1855.

Among those who took up their residence here in 1797, were Asa Jenner, Samuel Cooley, James Matson, Christopher Bresee, George Walton, Oliver and Timothy Morseman, Elizim Woodruff and Remembrance Hitchcock.

Asa Jenner, son of Stephen, was born in Stevenstown, Mass., Dec. 17, 1777. His parents were residing temporarily in that town, having fled from Pittsford early in the war. As the frontier towns became less exposed to the incursions of the enemy, they returned to Pittsford, and here young Jenner spent the most of his minority. He built a house on land given him by his father, some two or three rods north of the present residence of J. C. Howe, and on the 25th of December, 1797, he married Tryphena Grandee and began living in his new house. He resided there till 1801, when he sold this place to Jirah Burlow, and built another house about where Willard Humphrey's house now stands. In this he resided some years and

*The deed was dated May 25, 1796.

cleared considerable land in that vicinity. He also built the barn now on that place, though at first it stood on the west side of the road. It has since been moved across to the east side. His wife Tryphena died Nov. 16, 1801, aged twenty-two years and nine days. The next year he married Nancy Kirkham of Hubbardton. He changed his residence quite often during the latter part of his life, and died on the Town Farm in 1864. Mrs. Nancy Jenner died at the same place in 1869.

Samuel Cooley, born Nov. 17, 1775, son of Benjamin, married Polly, daughter of Jonathan Dike of Chittenden, October 5, 1797, and resided a few years on his father's farm. He then moved to Chittenden and located on the farm now owned by Patrick and William Shely. Again he returned to Pittsford and resided a short time on the homestead, and then he removed to the State of New York.

James Matson, son of Isaac the early settler, married Susan, daughter of James Barnes, formerly of New Milford, Conn., and located on the home farm with his brother Isaac. He occupied the house which has been mentioned as having once been the residence of his father. The two brothers sold the farm to Col. Hammond and moved to Pennsylvania.

Christopher Bresee, from West Stockbridge, Mass., located on the farm now owned by his grandson, Wallace E. Bresee. He and Elijah Hewings bought of John Sunderland one hundred and sixty-six acres, "being the second part of the third division of the original right of Charles Whittlesey." The deed was dated Jun. 31, 1797, and was in consideration of £260, L. M. Bresee is supposed to have bought Hewings' interest in the land as it is known that he made the first improvement on it, built a house, and for some years was the sole owner of it. His wife's maiden name was Hemmings, (Hammon,) and they had been married some years before coming to Pittsford.

Efforts have been made to obtain some information respecting the ancestry of George Walton but without success. He

purchased three-fourths of an acre of land on the west side of the road, north of and adjoining Esq. Graham's lot, and in the deed he is represented as being a resident of Whitehall in the State of New York. The date of this deed was August 4, 1797. He probably located in Pittsford about this time and built and stocked a store which stood on the ground occupied by the brick store now (1870) owned by G. H. Simonds. He was unmarried and boarded at the hotel, but had been in the town only a short time before he committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor. No reason could be assigned for the deed. It was not known here at the time that he had any relatives in New England, and his remains were interred within the limits of the North Burying Ground, as was then supposed, but after the establishment of the boundaries it was found to be northward of the Burying Ground. A few weeks after Walton's death, a brother of his came here, visited his grave and erected over it a stone bearing the following inscription:

"Vain man behold me as I am,
Beneath this mossy clod,
Here lies the body of George Walton.
Heaven from my eyes did hide the book of fate,
But this tomb doth prescribe my present state."

His brother J. D. Walton from sentiments of filial duty consecrates this stone to his memory."

The exact time when the Morseman family located in Pittsford is not now known. On the 27th of October, 1787, Ebenezer Drury, Commissioner on the estate of Noah Waite, deceased, sold so much of said estate as would pay the debts against the same, amounting to £44 4s. Fifty-five acres of this estate were sold to Joshua Morseman of Massachusetts. The name of the town is not given. It is hardly probable that the above named Joshua Morseman located in Pittsford at that time if at all, but he had two sons, Oliver and Timothy, both of whom became residents of this town about the year 1797. Oliver married Esther, daughter of Joseph Waite, and located on the

Waite farm. Timothy married and located on land purchased of his father, Joshua. He built a house about where George Morseman's barn now stands, and in this he resided some years. Oliver and Esther Morseman had a daughter Hannah, and Timothy had a son Timothy, Jr., who married the above named Hannah and resided some years in the house on the west side of the road, now owned by William E. Hall.

Elisha Woodruff was from Southington, Conn., but it is not now known what time he became a citizen of this town. According to the records his daughter Anna was born here Sept. 19, 1794. In what part of the town he then resided, however, we are not informed. On the 11th day of December, 1797, he purchased of Thomas Hammond ninety-two and three-fourths acres of land, "being a part of the third-division lot laid out to the original right of Andrew Powers." This included the most of the farm now owned by David Scofield, and extended easterly so far as to include land now owned by Samuel Nurse with the mill privilege. He built a log house about twenty rods west of the site of the house now owned by Mr. Scofield, and in that he resided till 1809, when he built the present house. In 1798, he built a saw-mill—the one recently demolished to give place to the new one now being built by Samuel Nurse—and two or three years later he built another saw-mill some five or six rods below the one first built. He operated both of these mills till 1811, when he was accidentally killed by a log rolling on him. Very soon after this his family left the town.

Remembrance Hitchcock, son of John, married Eunice Allen of Pittsfield, Mass., in 1795, and located in Brandon. In 1797, he came to this town and resided with his parents about three years. He built the house which is now the residence of Capt. Charles Hitchcock, in 1797, and the house now owned by Frank Bresce in 1800. He removed to the latter house as soon as it was finished, and resided there till about the year

1815, when he exchanged farms with Capt. Peter Powers, and soon after built the house recently reconstructed by George N. Eayres. He sold the Powers farm to Miles Johnson, and having purchased a site, built the house now owned by J. H. Peabody. He afterwards built the house now owned by Allen Hitchcock, as well as that now owned by Mrs. Obers. Mrs. Hitchcock died in August, 1844; Mr. Hitchcock in August, 1849.

The accessions to the inhabitants in 1798, were Levi Rowley, Eli Hudson, Zelotes Andrews, Thomas Benls, Stephen and Elijah Avery, Abraham Anthony, Isaac Clark, Robert Loveland.

Levi Rowley, son of Jonathan, married Esther Woodward and located on his father's farm. He occupied the old house built by his father, who moved to the west side of the road, into the house which has been mentioned as having been built by his son Hopkins. Jonathan, his father, deeded to him his home lot except the house he occupied and one acre of land on the west side of the road. The deed was dated October 13, 1798, and was in consideration of \$1,200. At the same time the said Levi bound himself, his heirs, executors and administrators, "to the said Jonathan and his wife Esther Rowley, to provide and perform to the said Jonathan and Esther, each and every of the articles herein mentioned, yearly, during their life time, viz.: Twelve Bushels of Wheat, Eight Bushels of Indian Corn and Four Bushels of Rye, all good and merchantable, Three Hundred pounds weight of good fatted Pork, and as much Sance of a Suitable Variety as the said Jonathan and Esther will want to eat, likewise a sufficiency of Salt, Pepper, Ginger, Allspice, Tea, Sngar, &c., for them as they want, also a sufficiency of Wearing Apparel for the said Jonnathan and Esther, suitable for them at all times and places, both for decency and comfort, and what necessary Physic and Cordials their health and age may require. Likewise their food dressed

and a nurse to attend them whenever they are unable to do it for themselves, also a Horse, Saddle and Bridle fit for the use of the said Jonathan and Esther."

The above were a part of the conditions of the bond, but how well they were fulfilled we are unable to learn.

Eli Hudson, of Hadley,* Mass., bought of Simeon Cliford the land recently occupied by Manuel Eckley, the deed being dated May 5, 1797. He cleared the land and built a house—the one now on the place—the following fall, and in about one year he married Eunice,† daughter of Isaac Chase, and commenced housekeeping. They resided on the place first purchased till 1820, when they sold it to Mr. Eckley, and bought the farm which had been improved by Josiah Eddy. Mr. Hudson died there, April 18, 1821. Mrs. Hudson died in 1844.

September 19, 1798, Zelotes Andrews of Chatham, Columbia County, N. Y., purchased of Nathan Hewitt ninety-five acres of land in Pittsford, which included the farm in the southeasterly part of the township now owned by Harvey Jackson. The most of the earlier improvements on that farm were made by Mr. Andrews. On the 9th of September, the same year, he married Betsey, daughter of James Wicker, and commenced to reside on the place he had purchased. He continued to live there till 1813, when he fell a victim to the malignant fever which prevailed that year. His widow afterwards married Jirah Barlow.

Thomas Beals married Charlotte Dimick and resided a few years in Sullivan, N. H.; but in 1798, he bought the farm in Pittsford now owned by Rufus Thomas and removed his family here early in the summer of that year. He resided on that place till 1806, when he sold his real estate in this town and removed to Pennsylvania.

* Mr. Hudson was born in Southington, Conn., Nov. 17, 1774.

† Eunice Chase was born in Sutton, Mass., March 16, 1776. Mr. Hudson married Miss Chase in 1798.

Stephen and Elijah Avery were brothers, and came from Brookfield, Mass.

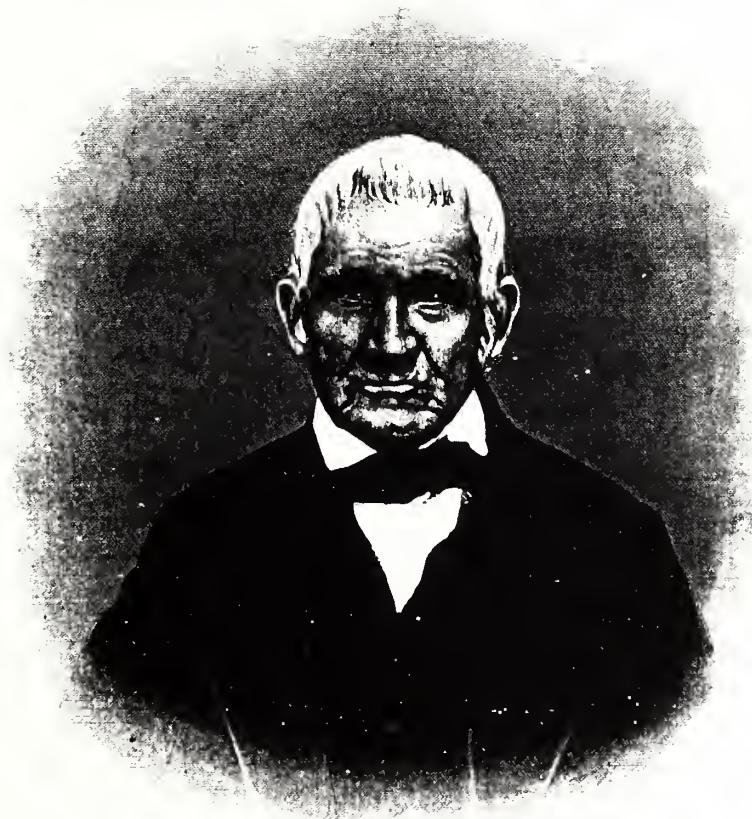
On the 13th of January, 1798, Stephen bought of Benjamin Cooley one acre and fifty-five rods of land lying south and adjoining the lot formerly owned by Elias Hopkins. This included the house-lot and gardens now owned by A. M. Caverly. During the following summer he built the house which has since been known as the Newell house, and was the one recently reconstructed by Dr. Caverly. On the 30th of April the same year he purchased of James Ewing five acres and sixty-seven rods, and on the 8th of April, 1799, he purchased "seven acres and three-quarters of an acre," both of which pieces lay south or southwest of the lot first purchased, and the whole included the easterly portion of what has since been known as the Newell farm.

On the 5th of October, 1798, Elijah Avery bought of Alexander Ewings one-half of an acre of land lying south of Abraham Walker's house-lot on the east side of the highway in the Village. This included the house-lot now owned and occupied by S. D. Winslow. Mr. Avery married Deborah Knowles and located on that place.

The two brothers bought the store* which had been owned and occupied by George Walton, and there carried on mercantile business in company.

Elijah died here in 1803, and Stephen sold out his real estate in Pittsford in 1807 and returned to Brookfield. He came to Pittsford again in 1813, and in company with others erected a mill for the manufacture of woolen cloth. This mill stood just below the grist-mill now owned by Mr. Stevens. In addition to the manufacture of cloth they carried on the business of carding wool and dressing cloth. Remsen Colton was the agent of this company, and for a time they did a brisk

* We have recently learned that this store was built by Elisha Ladd.



Robert Loveland

business. Mr. Avery retired from the firm in 1821, and moved to Brandon where he soon after died.*

Abraham Anthony, from Damby, located in the Ewings tavern† in 1798. He kept a public house during the greater part of his residence here which terminated in 1803. He then moved to Rutland where he resided a few years, and thence to Pawlet where he died.

Isaac Clark, a blacksmith by trade, was for some time a resident of Sullivan, N. H., but in 1798 he came to Pittsford and bought of Michael Sanders forty-two acres of land, the deed being dated the 21st day of June. This, a part of the original right of Aaron Denio, was located west and adjoining the farm owned by Richard Adams. Mr. Clark built a house on the west side of the north-and-south road near where it intersects the east-and-west road, and on land now owned by Lewis White. The ruins of the house are still visible. Mr. Clark resided here till about the year 1845, when he removed to Brandon.‡

Robert Loveland was the son of Robert who married Elizabeth Gaines, Dec. 17, 1761, and settled in Hartford, Conn. Their children were Elizabeth; Robert, Olive, Erastus, Abel, Joseph, Temperance and Austin. Robert was born in Hartford, March 19, 1765, married Ruth Milber, and located in Rutland, Vt. He bought of Daniel Lee the Gideon Cooley farm, Aug. 29, 1798, and about that time located in Pittsford. He resided on the Cooley farm till his death. Mrs. Ruth Loveland died March 18, 1846.

Seven families located in this town in 1799. The following names represent them: Daniel Hendee, Cyrenius Brown, Hezekiah Carr, William Morgan, John Mead, Peter Worden and Ozem Strong.

* Mrs. Stephen Avery was a daughter of Abraham Walker.

† Now the Rand house.

‡ Mrs. Clark was a sister of Mrs. Seymour Stevens, and was from Charlestown, N. H.

Daniel Hendee was the third son of Deacon Caleb, and was born in Pittsford, May 21, 1776. At the age of twenty-one, his father gave him a lot of land adjoining the town of Brandon, and he afterwards bought a lot contiguous, within the limits of Brandon. He made a clearing and built a log house, on land which has since been set off to the town of Brandon. This land included what was the farm recently owned by Daniel Goodnough. Young Hendee married Lucy, daughter of William Allen, and located on his farm. They had several children, but the most of them died young. Mrs. Hendee died in the prime of life, and Mr. Hendee married, for his second wife, Sally Burdett, and resided here till about the year 1835, when he moved to Dansville, Allegany County, N. Y.

Cyrenius Brown was the son of Elijah and Lydia Brown, and was born in Coventry, Conn., April 30, 1774. It is not now known what time he came to this town, but quite likely it was about the time that other members of the family came, in 1784. He married Experience Burnstable, October 12, 1799, and resided for a time in the house which stood just east of the brook on the north side of the road, near the present residence of Mrs. Hennessey. He changed his location quite often while a citizen of the town, and moved to the State of New York about the year 1806.

Hezekiah Carr, from Middletown, bought of Ebenezer Hopkins about one hundred and ten acres of land in this town, the deed being dated Dec. 11, 1798. This purchase included the land adjoining, and on the east side of the highway, opposite the residence of Jonathan Fassett, and it embraced a house and barn; the former stood near the road and about eight rods southeast of the Fassett house. This land was a part of the Fassett farm, and a portion of it was taken on execution in favor of John Shumway of Dorset, and by him deeded to Ephraim Doolittle of Shoreham, May 10, 1791.

The latter deeded it to Ebenezer Hepkins, November 12, 1792. It is not now known by whom the house was built, but as it had been built previous to the purchase of the estate by Hopkins it is quite probable that Jonathan Fassett was the builder. Mr. Carr resided on this farm till the spring of 1804, when he sold it in divided portions to Col. Cooley, Amos Kellogg, Adget Lothrop and others, and moved back to Middletown.

William Morgan, son of Israel, married Rachel, daughter of Gideon Sheldon, Sen., Feb. 21, 1799, and located in a log house on the farm now owned by Jonathan Gould. He afterwards built the house and barn now on that farm and resided there till his death.

We have no knowledge of the ancestry of John Mead. He resided in Chittenden a few years, but the 3d day of April, 1799, he purchased the lot of land in this town now occupied by Patrick Douland. It seems quite evident that Mr. Mead made the first improvements on that farm.

Peter Worden was from Dutchess County, N. Y., but nothing is known of his ancestry. He married Hannah, daughter of Gideon Sheldon of Pittsford, about the year 1799, and located on land now owned by Joseph Wolcott. The house he occupied stood on the north side of the road and only a few rods east of the school house in District No. 10. The house recently occupied by Hiram Bates stands where the former house stood. He resided there till about the year 1834, when he sold his real estate here to his son Humphrey, and moved to Pennsylvania.

Ozem Strong was from Pittsfield, Mass. We know nothing of his ancestry. February 10, 1799, he took a lease of Mrs. Mary Hopkins of the place which had been the residence of her deceased husband, Elias Hopkins. This, as already stated, included a small piece of land now owned by R. R. Drake; and the house stood about where his store now stands. Mr. Strong appears to have been a man of considerable business

capacity, and during his residence here, was frequently honored with such offices as were within the gift of his fellow-citizens. He held the office of first constable and collector of taxes from 1806 to 1813, and soon after the latter date he removed to Canada. Mrs. Strong was the daughter of Elias Hopkins, Sen.

That matters of public interest were not altogether neglected during the past ten years, will be made apparent by the following extracts* from the records of that period :

"PITTSFORD, March 16th 1790.

Then Annual Meeting opened according to warning, and made choice of Thomas Hammond moderator for sd meeting.

2. Voted to adjrn sd meeting to the house of Nathan Webster, sd adjournment is three quarters of an hour. Then met according to adjournment and opened sd meeting and read the Regulations.

3. Voted that Col. Benjamin Cooley Be Town Clerk.
4. Voted Col. Benjamin Cooley, Elish Adams and Thomas Be Selectmen the year Insning.
5. Voted Thomas Hammond, Town Treasurer.
6. Voted Nathan Webster first Constable.
7. Voted Samuel Coley 2 Constable.
8. Voted Phineas Ripley first grandjuryman.
9. Voted John Barnes 2 grandjuryman.
10. Voted Caleb Hendee, Jr., Ozias Crampton, Insign James Field, Insign Ladd, John Barnes, Listers.
11. Voted the first Constab Be collector to collect the Town Taxes.
12. Voted Ebenezer Lyman Be other Lister.
13. Voted Noah Hopkins Pound Keeper.

* These extracts are from the earliest existing town records. The records of the town were burnt about the year 1788. Col. Cooley, who was then Town Clerk, employed a man by the name of Gates, who resided some sixty rods east of the residence of Jonathan Fossett, to do some writing for him. While the records were in Gates' possession, his house took fire and was burnt, together with the records. Consequently we have no means of knowing when the town was organized, but inasmuch as the town officers can be traced back to 1780, it must have been prior to that period.

14. Voted Lieutenant Olmstead Tyding man.
15. Voted Lieutenant Calogg 2 Tyding man.
16. Voted Calvin Drury, Sexton Adams, Peter Powers, Elisha Warner, Hig Howards.
17. Voted Benjamin Cooley, Benjamin Stevens, John Barnes, fence viewers.
18. Voted Anthony Philips, Joseph Mosher, Robert Sweet, Deacon Hendee, Benjamin Stevens, Jedediah Lee, Abraham Drury, Elijah Brown, Amasa Weed High Way Surveyors.
19. Voted Joseph Mosher, Deer Reaf.
20. Voted Elias Hopkins, Sealer of Weights.
21. Voted Deacon Hopkins, Sealer of Measures.
22. Voted Mr. Lyman Be Sexton to dig graves.
23. Voted to shut up Hogs and Sheep.
24. Voted to build a Pound in the middle of the Town by the middle of May next.
25. Voted to discontinue the Road Beginning near the Burying Place on the west side of the River Running the east side of Benjamin Stevens now Dwelling House, about half a mile north of Israel Lakes now Dwelling House.
26. Voted that Lieutenant Olmstead should not be in the List of this town to pay Town Taxes.
27. Voted to raise a Town Tax of Fifty Pounds L. M. sd money to be paid on the grand List of the year 1790, to be collected by the first of December next to be paid in Wheat, Rye, Indian Corn, Beans, Peas, Oats, Wool, Flax or Tow Cloth.
28. Chase, Petty Jurymen.

Noah Hopkins,	
Caleb Cooley,	
Thomas Hamond,	Abel Stevens,
John Mott,	David Gitchell,
Ozias Crampton,	Samuel Fairfield,

Calvin Drury,
Amasa Ladd,
Phineas Ripley,
Samuel Cooley,
Amos Calogg,
Jedediah Lee,
Simeon Parmeley.

Justus Brewster,

Attest, BENJAMIN COOLEY, Town Clerk."

At a special meeting held on the 5th of April, 1791, of which Thomas Hammond was Moderator, the "Town made choice of a Committee to take a view of the ground that was laid out as Common Land on the main road leading through sd Town, north of Nathan Webster's, and make a just estimation according to the best of their Judgment what the ods was in the two pieces of ground that was there proposed for the purpose of Building meeting houses on for the two denominations in sd town, viz.: the Baptists and Congregational order. The said Committee according to their instrnctions took a view of the ground and Reported that it was their opinion that the price of ground South of the training field and North of Amos Webster's land was Twenty four Pounds of the most value than that was where the Baptist meeting house then stood. Then the Town deccided to Except the Report of the Committee, and then sd Town voted to draw lots for the ground aforesaid and stated the matter that the denomination that drew the spot south of the training field should pay to the other twenty-four Pounds, and the other was to take sd sum. Then the two denominations proceeded to the draught, and the Congregational order in said Town drew the spot south of the training field, and also gave their obligation to the Baptist order at the same time for the sum of £24."

At a meeting held on the 28th of March, 1792, the town "voted to choose a Commity of three, to wit: Lieut. Kelogue,

Esq. Drury, Samuel Copley to be Committee to Settle with Lieut. Hammond, the former Treasurer and also Col. Cooley the present Treasurer and make their report to the next annual Meeting. Voted to raise three Pence on the Pound on the List of 1792, Payable by the 25th December next in wheat at 4s—6d per bushel and rye at 3s—3d, and Beans and Peas, Beef and Pork agreeable to that price and Corn and oats as Town Tax. The Road from School House No. 3, is Discontinued to the place where it strikes the other Road

PETTY JURY FOR 1792.

William Spencer,	Calvin Drury,
Samuel Copley,	Samuel Fairfield,
Abraham Drury,	James Hopkins,
Samuel Hopkins,	David Gitchell,
Israel Lake,	Abell Stevens,
Gideon Sheldon,	Thomas Hammond.

AMOS KELLOGG, Moderator.
BENJ. COOLEY, Town Clerk."

On the 4th of March, 1793, the town

"Voted to lay out a Road in the most convenient Place from the meeting House to Wm. Cox's South Line.

Voted to lay out a Burying Place Northeast of the Meeting House Lot on the Town Plot.

Voted to build two Bridges over the Brook on Mr. Rowley's interval at the Town's Cost.

Chose Benjamin Cooley, Thomas Hammond, Noah Hopkins, William Cox, Samuel Copley, a Committee to lay out a Burying Place.

Chose William Cox, Amos Calog, Caleb Cooley to Repair the Bridges."

At the annual meeting, March 3, 1794, after choosing the usual town officers, the town

"Voted to raise four Pence on a Pound on the List of

1794, sd money to Be raised in Wheat, Corn and Oats, Wheat at four shillings six pence per bushel, Corn at three shillings, Oats one and six pence per bushel, Paable by the first of January next."

" Sept. 21, 1794.

Respecting the Soldiers in Pittsford that did List. Voted that this town will make up the soldiers their wages to 40 shillings per month during the time they are in actual service. Sargents to be made good Eight Dollars per months. Corporals 44 shillings per month Provided that Congress does not nor the General Assembly provide for them equal to that, and that the Selectmen of sd Town is directed to make up on the Grand List the sum for each person to pay and the first months wages to be paid when they are called to march."

" September the 1st 1795.

Then the inhabitants of the Town of Pittsford that are legal voters met at the time and place as the Law Directs and opened sd meeting and Proceeded to Bisnes.

1. Chose Thomas Hammond, Moderator.
2. Voted to Build a Bridge acrost the Little River near Benjamin Cooley's.
3. Voted to choose a Committe to superintend the Building of the above said Bridge.
4. Chose the Selectmen as the above said Committe.
5. Voted to raise thirty pounds to be Proprieted towards the Building a Bridge over Orter Krick East of the Wid. Hendeec's Provided that there is enough subscribed by Individuals to finish the bridge."

March 1, 1796.

Voted that the Comity that shall build a good Bridge over Orter Krick near Mr. Daniel Lees* when sd Bridge is well finished shall draw fifteen Pounds out of the Town Treasury.

* Daniel Lee at this time lived on the Abel Stevens farm.

Voted to raise four Pence on the Pound of the List of Ninety-Six to be paid in any kind of Grain by the first of January next.

Voted that the Selectmen hire some person to sweep the Meeting House one year. Caleb Hendee found.

October the 1st, 1796.

Voted to Build a Bridge crost the River By Benjamin Cooley's.

Voted that the Selectmen be a Commity to Build sd Bridge.

Voted that the Selectmen shall have Liberty to draw ten Pounds in Addition to fifteen Pounds out of the Trensury that was given Last March for the purpose of bnilding the Bridge over Orter Krick Near Daniel Lees if more is Needed When sd Bridge is Finished.

Voted that the Selectmen shall have Liberty to Draw Eight Pounds out of the Town treasury for the support of mr. Jones Family.

Voted that the Selectmen Draw Six Pounds out of the Town treasury for the Purpos of Bying a Cow to lend to mr. Hawks.

Voted to Raise one Peney on the Pound on the List of Ninety-Six Paable in any kind of Grain by the first of January Next.

Desolved sd meeting.

Attest, NOAH HOPKINS, Moderator.

BENJAMIN COOLEY, Town Clerk." ,

"September 25th 1797.

Then the Inhabitants of Pittsford met at the time and Place acording to the warning and opened sd Meeting and Proceeded to Bisnes as the Law Directs.

First, made choice of Amos Kellogg, Moderator.

2. Voted to Except the Road as it wns laid out by the last

Community that was appointed by the Suprem Cort from Penfield's Mills to John Train's House* and from thence to Col. Hammonds House.

3. Voted that the Selectmen should Draw Six Pounds out of the Treasury for the Purpos of Making bees to clear the Road from Penfields Mills to John Train's House.

4. Voted that the Selectmen should superintend the Bisnes.

5. Voted that the sd Work begin the third Monday of October Next.

6. Voted that the Selectmen Draw twenty-five Dollars out of the Town Treasury for the support of Singing Schools.

7. Voted to Dissolve sd Meeting.

Attest, AMOS KELLOGG, Moderator.

BENJA. COOLEY, Town Clerk."

PITTSFORD; March 13th 1798.

Voted to Raise two hundred Dollars on the grand List of the year 1798, sd Tax to be raised in any kind of grain By the first of January Next.

Voted to sell the timber on the reserved part of the School Lott and that the Selectmen and Esquire Kellogg be trustees to sell sd Timber.

Voted to pay Fifteen Dollars out of the Town Treasury for each Grown Wolf that is killed in Pittsford, not followed in from other Towns. If a Wolf shall be drove from Pittsford and killed, sd scalp shull be paid for by the Town.

Voted to give John Train the Priviledge of keeping good gates to secure his Intervale, one at Mead's Bridge and one at the East end of the Intervale in the place where the old Gate stood."

March 4, 1799.

Voted that Swine run at large with a Suficient Yoke and Ring.

* This was the Webster Tavern.

Voted that the Pound Keeper be the sole Judge with respect to their Yokes and rings.

Voted that Sheep should not run at large.

Voted that Horses should not run at large.

* * * * *

Voted that the Selectmen and a Community of two others, viz, Captain Handy and Sammel Copley view the Spot for a Bridge near Pikes over Orter Creek and make a report at the adjourned meeting.

Voted that the Selectmen provide a Work House or a place for the Towns Poor.

Voted to adjourn sd meeting to the last Wednesday in this month at 3 of the Clock After Noon."

March 27th, 1799.

Then the Inhabitants of the Town of Pittsford met at time and place according to adjournment and opened sd meeting and proceeded to business.

Voted to raise one cent on a dollar to be laid on the Grand List of the year 1799, sd Tax to be Paid in Wheat at 4s—6d per Bushel, or Rye at 5 and 9 pence, Indian Corn at 3s—0d.

Voted that the Selectmen lay out twenty Dollars in making the Road by Mr. Copley.

Voted to make a Rope sufficient for raising Bridges.

Voted to Buy a Pall or grave Cloth.

Voted to Reconsider the vote of the Town of Pittsford which was to give fifteen Dollars for the killing of Wolves per Head.

Voted to give 5 Dollars for a Bounty to any one that shall kill a grown Wolf.

Voted to give 8 cents for each grown Crow that shall be killed in Pittsford between the 15th of April and the 20th of June Next.

Voted to give 3 cents for each grown Blackbird killed in sd town between the 15th of April and the 20th of June next.

Voted that the school trustees take the acomt of the above Crows and Blackbirds that are killed as above discribed, who kills them and how many.

Voted to give one cent for each head or scalp of grey, black, or red or chip squirrill killed from this time to the first Monday in Janmary Next, killed in Pittsford, sd Culps to be brought to the Trustees of the School Districts or Selectmen.

Voted that the Selectmen draw out the Town Treasury five gallons of Rum, to give to the side that shall Beat in the Squirrel Hunt on the first Mondny of May Next.

Voted that the Selectmen provide a Black Bear for to carry the Dead ou.

Voted to Desolve this meeting.

THOS. HAMMOND, Moderator.

BENJA. COOLEY, Town Clerk."

In the early part of this period the long pending land-title controversy with New York was brought to a sucessful termination. New Hampshire had long since relinquished her claim to this territory, and New York had become convinced that further efforts to recall the people of the New Hampshire Grants to her jurisdiction would be futile, and that it would be for the interest of all parties that their independence should be acknowledged. As early as the 14th of July, 1789, the legislature of that State passed an act appointing commissioners "with full powers on such terms and conditions, and in such manner and form, as they should judge necessary and proper to declare the consent of the legislature to the erection of the district of Vermont into a new State." It wns, however, provided that the act should not be construed to give any persons claiming lands in such district, to be erected into an independent State, any right to compensation from that State.

On the 23d of October following, the legislature of Vermont passed an act appointing commissioners with authority

"to treat with commissioners that now are or hereafter may be appointed by the State of New York, and granting them full powers to ascertain, agree to, ratify and confirm, a jurisdictional or boundary line between the State of Vermont and the State of New York, and to adjust and finally determine all and every matter or thing which in any wise obstructs a union of the State with the United States."

The commissioners of the two States met in the city of New York in February, 1790. But it was soon found that the New York commissioners had no authority, under the act by which they were appointed, to make stipulations which would be satisfactory to the people of Vermont, and the negotiations were broken off. But the legislature of New York, on the 6th of March, repealed the former act, and, as a substitute for it, passed another, conferring on the commissioners full power, not only to relinquish the jurisdiction of New York over the territory of Vermont, but also to provide in such manner as they should consider proper for securing the titles to lands therein against persons claiming the same lands under grants from the State of New York; and it further provided that any compensation that might be received for the relinquishment of territory should be for the use of the land claimants and not for the State. The commissioners appointed under this act met the Vermont commissioners on the 27th of September, and after careful deliberation the New York commissioners entered into a written agreement declaring the consent of New York that Vermont be admitted into the Union of the United States of America, and that immediately on such admission all claim of jurisdiction of the State of New York within the State of Vermont should cease. And it was further agreed that if the legislature of Vermont shall, on or before the first day of January, 1792, declare that, on or before the first day of June, 1794, the said State of Vermont would pay to the State of New York the sum of thirty thousand dollars, all rights and

titles to lands within the State of Vermont under grants from the late colony of New York or from the State of New York, should cease. On the 28th of the same month the legislature of Vermont passed an act making provision for the payment of the thirty thousand dollars in accordance with the stipulations which had been subscribed by the commissioners of the two States. Agreeably to a call, a convention of delegates from the several towns* in Vermont met at Bennington on the 6th of January following to act upon the question of the adoption of the United States Constitution which was ratified on the 10th of the same month; and on the 4th of March, 1791, Vermont was admitted into the Union as a member of the United States of America.

The thirty thousand dollars which had been appropriated by the legislature of Vermont for compensation to New York, had accumulated in the Treasurer's vault at Rutland, and some responsible person was wanted to convey it from thence to the office of the New York State Treasurer at Albany. An honored citizen of Pittsford, Thomas Hammond, was appointed to this important trust. Late in May, 1794, in season to reach Albany at the appointed time, he had the coin packed in boxes which were placed in a wagon, and one morning, long before daylight, accompanied by Samuel Mattocks, then State Treasurer,† he set out on his journey. On descending the hill a little south of Clarendon Meeting House, one of the boxes burst open and the coin rolled out on to the ground. As it was dark, they had to go to a neighboring house for a light to enable them to gather up their scattered treasure. In this they succeeded, so that not a dollar was lost, and the funds committed to their care were safely deposited in the Treasurer's office at Albany.‡

* The delegate to this convention from Pittsford was Thomas Hammond.

† And Mr. Mattocks' sons, William and John.

‡ The documents show that twenty-five thousand dollars were paid at this time; when the balance of five thousand was paid is not known to the writer.

CHAPTER VIII.

Immigrants and their Locations continued; Proprietors' Records; Wolves, and measures taken for their destruction. 1800—1810.

Luke Osgood, born in Wendell, Mass., March 15, 1778, son of Luke and Eunice (Crosby) Osgood, located in Pittsford in 1800. He came here for the first time in 1799, and purchased one hundred acres of land which included the most of the farm now owned by William Creed. After making a small clearing and building a log house, he returned to Wendell where he spent the winter. On the 10th of February, 1800, he married Olive Dresser, and in March following they settled in this town. Mr. Osgood died here March 31, 1853. Mrs. Osgood died November 5, 1869.

Leonard Rawson, from Rhode Island, purchased of Israel Keith the "Harwood farm,"* so called, "bounded north by land of Peter Powers, east by John Fenn's farm, south by land of Jacob Cooley and West by Daniel Lee's home farm.† It contained about eighty acres, though, to quote the deed, "four acres on which are Nathaniel Kingsley's house, barn and tanyard, are to be reserved to said Kingsley." Mr. Rawson was a joiner by trade, and soon after he purchased this land he built the house which now stands nearest to, and a few rods west of, the school house in District No. 2. On the 6th of March, 1800, he married Lydia, daughter of John Hitchcock, Sen., and commenced to occupy this new house. Both died in this town; Mrs. Rawson in 1816, and Mr. Rawson in 1820.

* This was the land upon which Eleazer Harwood first located in this town.
† Daniel Lee at this time resided on the Abel Stevens farm.

Gardner Powers, son of Jeremiah of Greenwich, Mass., bought of Samuel Jones, Jr., the farm next south of Amasa Ladd's, consisting of one hundred acres, Aug. 25, 1800. He married Chloe Powers and resided on that farm till about the year 1833, when he left the town.

Joshua Kingsley, son of Nathaniel, married, May 28, 1800, Wealthy, daughter of Amos Weller, and located on the homestead in Pittsford. He was a tanner, a trade he learned of his father, and he worked at it some years in this town. His wife, Wealthy, died in 1806, and the following year he married Lucy Robinson who was born in Windham County, Conn., in 1779. The marriage took place in Dorset. They resided in Pittsford till about the year 1830, when they removed to Troy, Penn., where Mr. Kingsley died, Aug. 6, 1857. Mrs. Kingsley died Feb. 14, 1859.

Eli Williams resided in this town but a few years and we know little about him. He married Elizabeth Wheeler, May 25, 1800, and located on the place which has been mentioned as the former residence of Jacob Cooley, and afterwards of Jeremiah Needham.

John Penfield, son of John, was born in New Fairfield, Conn., in 1774, and at an early age was placed as an apprentice to a saddler on Quaker Hill, Dutchess County, N. Y. He came to Pittsford in 1797, and opened a shop* where the red house now stands, at the junction of the Rutland and Clifton roads, near the present residence of David Blair. July 2, 1800, he married Patience, daughter of Abraham Anthony, and located in the house now owned by Martin Leach. He left Pittsford in 1803, and died in Whitehall, Oct. 9, 1848.

Chauncey Fenn, son of Gideon, married Sarah Ward, and resided a few years on the homestead with his parents and afterwards left the town.

Nathan Wright, son of Abel, married Abigail Woodruff,

* This shop has been removed and it is now Thos. Hennessy's barn.

July 17, 1800, and located on land now owned by Nathan Hand. The house he occupied stood in the southwest corner of the orchard, a little north of Mr. Hand's north barn. It was near the road which at that time passed some rods west of the present road. His wife Abigail died in 1802, and he married Esther Fassett October 27, 1803. He left the town about the year 1808.

Moses Hitchcock, son of John, Jr., married —— Baird of Chittenden, and located on the farm now owned by Nehemiah Barnes. His house stood on the east side of the road, and he had a blacksmith's shop on the opposite side about where the present house now stands. He was a blacksmith by trade and to this employment the most of his time was devoted. He moved to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., about the year 1806.

Ephraim Dunlap was born in Windham, Conn., April 17, 1746. At the commencement of the Revolutionary war he enlisted in the service of his country. He assisted in the construction of the redoubt on Breed's hill, during the night of the 16th of June, 1775, and participated in the battle which followed. He was afterwards appointed orderly sergeant in which capacity he served several months. Mr. Dunlap married Betsey Tedder* about the year 1790, and located in Andover, Vt., in 1798, from which town he came to Pittsford in 1800. He resided one year on the place now occupied by Erastus Parmele, though the house at that time stood on the west side of the road. In 1801, he moved to Whipple Hollow, and built the house now owned by his daughters, Rachel and Betsey, and in that he resided till his death.

James Tedder, son of James, was born in New Ipswich, N. H., March 3, 1768, and married Polly Patten of Temple. He resided in his native town till 1798, when he removed to Andover, Vt., and from thence to Pittsford in 1800. He

* Born in New Ipswich, N. H., Sept. 2, 1765.

resided a few years on the farm formerly owned by Dr. Deming, and now by Simeon Parmelee. He changed his residence several times while a citizen of the town. Mr. Tedder moved to Whitehall about the year 1818.

The Booth family is of Welsh descent. Simeon Booth came from Wales about the year 1680, and settled in Endfield, Conn. He had two sons, William and Zachariah. The latter had two sons, John and Joseph. Joseph had several children, one of whom was Isaac, who had Isaac, Jr., and Benjamin. The last was born May 17, 1768, in Union, Conn., and in the year 1800, he married Anna Needham, a native of Brimfield, and located in Pittsford, Vt. They resided for a time on the farm formerly owned by James Hopkins, but afterwards removed to the place now owned by Seth Hudson. The house they occupied—the first on that place—stood on the same ground as the present house. Mr. Booth died Jan. 18, 1839, and Mrs. Booth in May following.

The first we hear of Samuel Buell is in 1799. On the 30th of December in that year he bought of Peter Bresee forty acres of land which included a part of the farm now owned by David Mills. Mr. Buell built the easterly part of the house now occupied by Mr. Mills. He married Hannah, daughter of Richard Hendee, and resided some years on his farm which was several times enlarged by additional purchases. Mr. Buell came here in the spring of the year 1800, and removed to Brandon about the year 1813.

Simeon Gilbert, from Oakham, Mass., located here in the year 1800. Jonathan Gilbert, his father, was born in Brookfield, in August, 1726. He married Hannah Abbott who was born in New Braintree. They located in Brookfield, where the following children were born, viz.: Martha, Jacob, Eleanor, Affa, Sarah, Daniel, Simeon, Jonathan and Josiah. Simeon was born Aug. 29, 1761. July 12, 1787, he married Sarah Amadon, who was born in New Braintree, Feb. 12, 1765.

They located in Oakham, but removed to Pittsford, Vt., January 18, 1800, and bought the farm then owned by Amasa Ladd. Upon this they spent the remainder of their days. Mr. Gilbert died January 5, 1835.

Hezekiah Parmelee, son of Simeon, Sen., was born at West Stockbridge, Mass., in 1775, and married Miriam,^{*} daughter of William Orentt, April 5, 1801. He located on the paternal homestead where he resided till about the year 1815, when he removed to the farm formerly owned by Josiah Eddy, where he lived seven years. After spending one year on the Daniel Keith place he bought the Dr. Deming farm and resided there till his death, September 19, 1853. Mrs. Parmelee died January 3, 1846.

Calvin Conant—brother to John of Brandon, and Ebenezer for a time of Pittsford—married Esther, daughter of Elder Elisha Rich, May 24, 1801, and resided a short time with his father-in-law; but he afterwards built a house on the east side of the Brandon road, a few rods south of the branch road, leading to the present residence of Isaac C. Wheaton. He had probably resided in this town one or two years before his marriage, as we find that he became a member of the Baptist church on the 9th of November, 1800, and was chosen church clerk two years later. His dwelling house, being quite large, was occupied by the Baptist society as a place of worship, from the time they left the present Town House to the completion of their new house of worship. About the year 1811, he removed to Brandon, thence to Shelburne, and thence, in 1816, to Putnum, Ohio, where he died in 1825. Mrs. Conant died in 1824. "Mr. Conant was an ingenious mechanic, and said to be a good physician which profession he followed some years."[†]

Jirah Barlow of Greenwich, Mass., brother of William,

* Born in September, 1775.

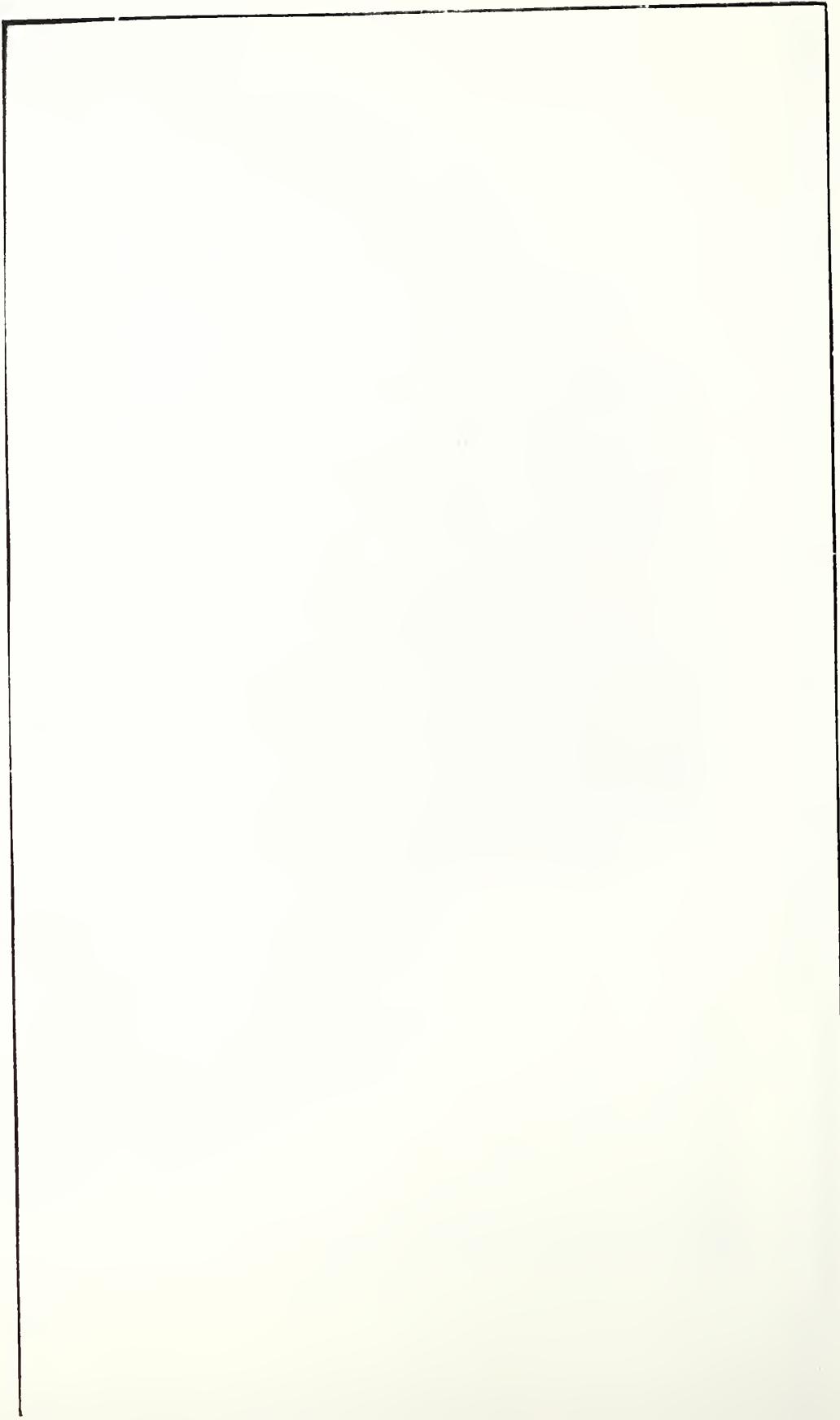
† Hender's MS.

already mentioned, came here in 1799, and purchased of Chester Powers a "piece or parcel" of land lying east and northeast of Penfield's mill-lot, and it included the water privilege, "together with the fulling mill, dye house, two strings of tenderbars, dwelling house, and shop, and one pair clothier's shears, one iron screw and box, and one clothier's plait." Powers purchased this property the 31st day of March, 1797, of Noel William Avery, who had built the mill the previous year. This mill stood on Ripley Brook some twenty or thirty rods from its entrance into Furnace Brook. Soon after Mr. Barlow made this purchase, he bought the water privilege below Penfield's mill, and built what is now a part of the straw-board mill, owned by Mr. Allen. Here he carded wool, and manufactured and dressed cloth. On the opposite side of the stream he built an oil mill, and a few rods below this he put up a distillery. On the 5th of July, 1801, he married Anna, daughter of Simeon Purmelee, and located in a house which stood on the bank in the mill yard, two or three rods southwest of the barn now owned by H. F. Lothrop. He was a man of considerable energy but the result of his operations showed that he had more business on his hands than he could manage to advantage. He left this town about the year 1826, and went to the State of Illinois.

The Whenton family is of English descent; the first in this country was Thomas Wheedon (English orthography) who came here from England in 1650. He was then nineteen years of age, and he went to North Bradford where he learned the tanning and currying business of a man by the name of Gilbert. About the year 1657, he married Hannah Harvey. He became a man of wealth and died at the age of ninety. His family consisted of two sons, Thomas and Jonathan, and four daughters. One of these sons, it is not certain which, had a son Isaac, who married and had three sons, viz.: Solomon, Isaac and James; the latter married Dina Whedon by whom



Isaac Hopper, Jr.



he had sons, Rufus, Isaac, Pittman and James; and daughters, Emilee, Irena, Olive and Lois. James, the father, died March 8, 1804.

Isaac Wheaton,* (as he spelled his name,) the son of James above mentioned, became a joiner by trade, and came to Thetford, Vt., where he worked a few weeks and then came to Chittenden and bought the Randall farm, but kept it only a few months. After this he married Irena,† daughter of Jonathan Dike, and resided a short time in the house with Capt. Caleb Cooley; but on the 21st day of October, 1801, he bought of Stephen Mead, Jr., fifty-five acres of land—a part of the first-division lot of the right of Alexander Scott—which included a part of the Samuel Crippen farm, now owned by Ransom Burdett. He resided here the following winter, but on the 1st of February, 1802, he sold this farm to Hiram Hopkins, and on the 19th of April following, he bought of Abel Wright one hundred and ten acres, the most essential part of what has since been known as the Wheaton farm. Mr. Wheaton made many improvements on that farm and resided there till his death, Nov. 25, 1851, when it passed into the hands of his worthy son, Isaac C. Wheaton. Mrs. Wheaton died July 5, 1855.

Chapman Hitchcock, son of John, married Chrissey Hill in 1801. He made the first improvements and built a house where E. Seward now resides—known as the Alexander place—and occupied it till after the death of his father when he returned to the paternal homestead. He possessed a cultivated mind and was very fond of music in which he became very proficient. For several winters he taught singing schools, and by our older inhabitants he will be remembered as the leader of the choir in the old Congregational Meeting House, where were often heard old Claremont, Judgment Anthem, etc. He

* Born Aug. 17, 1770.

† Born June 25, 1779.

was also very much given to hunting, being always ready to join his neighbors in a hunt for bears or deer, many of which were roaming about the township or neighboring hills. On one occasion, in company with Andrew Barnard, he followed a bear up on the side of the hill west of his house, where the dogs drove him up a tree. On coming up Barnard fired and brought the beast to the ground, wounded, but abundantly able to fight. Hitchcock raised his gun to fire, but Barnard cried "Hold on, you will kill my dog!" He then seized a hand-spike and struck a heavy blow which the bear warded off, but it killed the dog. He then took his gun and killed the bear.

Peter Bresee, from Stockbridge, Mass., brother of Christopher who has already been mentioned, married Hannah June of Brandon, Jan. 7, 1802, and located on the farm which has been mentioned as once the home of John Hall, now that of Alexander Parmelee. There were two houses then on that farm, both standing north of the present house and near the north barn; and in one of these Mr. Bresee resided a few years, when he moved a little north to the farm now owned by David Holden. He removed thence to a house which stood a few rods south of the west end of the Mead bridge. He had a blacksmith's shop near the house, in which he wrought at his trade, that of a blacksmith. He moved to Canada, where he afterwards died.

Elisha Rich, son of Elder Elisha, was a blacksmith by trade, though he occasionally officiated as a Baptist preacher. He married Peggy Barnes, Feb. 9, 1802, and resided a short time with his parents in this town, after which he moved to Sugar Creek, Penn. He inherited the most of his father's estate, a part of which was in this town.*

Levi Gitchel, son of David, married Dindam, daughter of John Dimmick, January 31, 1802, and located on the home

* Hendee's MS.

farm with his parents. Another son, Eli, married and resided there, also, till about the year 1806, when the two brothers removed to Pennsylvania. David, the father, died about the year 1803, and his widow left the town with her sons.

Samuel Lucas was a school teacher by profession, and was employed in this business during the most of the time that he resided in this town. He married Sarah, eldest daughter of Nathaniel Kingsley, and located on the place now owned by Martin Leach.* He was a cripple, unable to labor on a farm, and consequently devoted his time to teaching. He sold the place upon which he first located to Abraham Walker, Oct. 29, 1804, and the first of November he took a deed of twenty-nine acres of Absalom Burnham—the same land now owned by Henry Sherman, James Bucknam and Josiah Leonard. The house in which Mr. Lucas here resided, stood a few rods south of where Mr. Bucknam now lives. Soon after he purchased this land he sold one acre of it to Abraham Drury. This was a corner piece and the same upon which Mr. Leonard's red house now stands. Lucas sold the remainder of his land (twenty-eight acres) to Phineas and William Ripley, December 10, 1807, and moved to Amsterdam, N. Y., where he died.

Thomas Winslow was from Greenwich, Mass. His mother was Margaret, daughter of Benjamin Cooley of that town, and sister of Col. Benjamin Cooley of Pittsford. He came to Pittsford about the year 1802, and married the widow of Timothy Mead. Timothy Mead, son Stephen, Sen., had built a house some five or six rods south of his father's residence, and had married and resided there till his death in the year 1800. Two years later Thomas Winslow married Mr. Mead's widow and occupied that house till about the year 1818, when he removed from the town.

Harvey Houghton, from Brimfield,† Mass., married Polly

* He purchased this place of John Penfield, Jr., March 10, 1803.

† Before coming to Pittsford he had resided in Chazy, N. Y.

Brewster of this town, July 7, 1803, and located on a piece of land north of and adjoining the farm of John Barnes. The house in which Houghton lived stood about three rods west of the present highway, and fifteen rods southwest of the three large boulders on the east side of the highway. Solomon Moulton, also from Brimfield, had, at an earlier period, located a few rods further north, on the west side of the road, nearly opposite the burying ground. Houghton left the town, but Moulton died here about the year 1830.

Charles Lamb was born in Scotland in 1747, and became a mason and stone-cutter by trade. He enlisted into the British military service in 1775, and was sent to America in the expedition under Gen. Howe. In the vicinity of Boston he was taken prisoner by the Americans, whether willingly or unwillingly we are not informed. At any rate, he never again joined the army, but retired to the peaceful pursuits of life. He married Sarah Pierce of Pittsfield, Mass., in 1777, and located in that town where he resided till 1791, when he moved to Salem, N. Y. In 1803, March 11th, he bought of Asa Blackmer* the farm now owned by his daughter, Mrs. Sally Walker. He resided on that farm till his death, February 4, 1834. Mrs. Lamb died in September, 1841.

Job Powers, son of Jeremiah of Greenwich, probably came to Pittsford with other members of his father's family. On the 31st of August, 1799, he bought of Joseph Rowley fifty-five acres of land, "being the easterly half of the second-division lot of the original right of Peter Johnson;" and on the 6th of November, the same year, he bought also of Joseph Rowley fifty-five acres, the same "being one-half of the third-division lot of the original right of Peter Johnson." This land was located in Sugar Hollow and was nearly identical with the

* Asa Blackmer made the first improvements on that farm, but we are unable to learn when he commenced them. He was from Greenwich, Mass. In 1803, he moved to Brandon.

farm recently owned by John Rand. Mr. Powers built the house now standing on the west side of the road, and about the year 1803, married Milleant ——, and located on the westerly half of that farm. He died there about the year 1830. Justus Powers, brother of the preceding, married Lucy, daughter of Daniel Carpenter, and located with his parents on the east side of the highway, opposite his brother. He moved to Rutland about the year 1810.

David Hall was born in Colchester, Conn., Nov. 8, 1764, and when a young man he went to Surry, N. H., where he married, April 3, 1784, Abigail Hitchcock, who was born in Bolton, Conn., April 12, 1762. They resided a short time in Surry, and then removed to Newport, and from thence to Brandon, Vt., where their son David was born, June 3, 1795. In 1803, the family came to Pittsford and located on the farm now owned by Alexander Parmelee. They occupied one of the two log houses* which at that time stood a few rods north of the house now on that farm. Mr. Hall died in Pittsford, Nov. 7, 1841; Mrs. Hall died in Sudbury, Aug. 28, 1833.

Asa Mead, son of John, married Polly, daughter of Hezekiah Carr, September 4, 1803, and resided some years in the family of Mr. Carr. During his residence here his time was principally employed in making shingles. He and Mr. Carr left the town about the same time.

William Chapman, when a young man, worked for Major Cheney in the north part of Rutland; but on the 27th day of February, 1803, he married Elizabeth Tupper, and located on a piece of land lying east of the present residence of Royal Hall, and north of Lot Keeler's. Some vestiges of the house may still be seen, together with the orchard near it. There was a William Chapman at one time living in a log house†

* Mr. Hall afterwards built and occupied the house which is now the residence of Alexander Parmelee.

† There were two houses near that barn. One was for a time occupied by Chapman, and the other by a Mr. Brooks.

which stood on the Hubbardton road, on the hill west of Marshall Thomas', and near where the barn now stands. Quite likely this was the same man who, some time afterwards moved to the State of New York.

Bradley Squire was from Manchester, Vt., but we can learn little of his ancestry. He was a large, portly man, and in early life became a school teacher, a vocation which he followed several years in this town. He married Sally, daughter of Jonathan Rowley, July 30, 1803, and resided a short time in the family of Deacon Caleb Hendeo who, in 1791, had married his mother, Mrs. Mary Squire, then a widow. Mr. Squire resided in this town but a few years after his marriage. He had a brother, Phineas Squire, who married Esther, another daughter of Jonathan Rowley, and resided some years on the Rowley farm, but eventually moved to Pennsylvania.

Joshua Bates, born in Mendon, Mass., March 20, 1782, came to Pittsford in 1801, and married, Dec. 6, 1804, Rebecca Douglas, who was born March 6, 1785. They located on the farm^{*} first improved and occupied by Elias Hall. His wife Rebecca died Sept. 9, 1839, and he married Mary Warner who died Sept. 10, 1865. Mr. Bates died February 10, 1867.

Noah Cooley, son of Col. Benjamin, married Jane, daughter of Peter Sutherland, January 24, 1804, and located on the west side of Otter Creek, upon land now owned by Ransom Burdett. The house he occupied, built by him, stood on the east side of the old road leading from the residence of Tilly Walker to that of Peter Rice—now R. Burdett's. The cellar of the house can still be seen in the pasture about thirty rods west of the railroad. Mr. Cooley resided there a few years, and then removed to the western country where he died, Jan. 11, 1856. Mrs. Cooley died July 4, 1854.

* Mr. Bates bought this farm of his elder brother, Michael, who purchased it of Elias Hall, Sept. 6, 1795.

Elisha Woodruff, Jr., son of Elisha, married Welthen, daughter of William Spencer, Jan. 5, 1804, and located on the place now owned by Peter Bullet. He removed to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., about the year 1814.

Peter Thomas, born in Concord, Mass., March 1, 1770, son of John Marion, located here in 1804. He well remembered the battle of Lexington and the eventful scenes of that day. His parents, in common with other inhabitants of the town, were alarmed by the approach of the enemy, and while Mr. Marion joined the men of the town in secreting what was left of common and military stores, Mrs. Marion and her son, a little more than five years of age, with other women and children fled to the hills for safety. There young Marion, who afterwards took the name of Thomas, saw the British Regulars as they marched into the town; and after their departure he saw the dead bodies of several persons whom they had murdered. These events, at that tender age, made a deep impression upon his mind, and he was accustomed to narrate them with deep emotion. He married Mary, daughter of Joseph Read of Acton, in October, 1803. The following year they came to this town and located on the farm now owned by his son Marshall. Mr. Thomas purchased this of John Marion who had it of Nathan Whittemore. Mr. Whittemore built the house in which the family resided till 1846, when it was removed and the present one built by Marshall Thomas.

Thomas Burditt, from Lynn, Mass., came to Pittsford about the year 1804, and located on the easterly slope of West Hill, on land now owned by Ransom Burditt. He made the first clearing there and built a house very nearly west of the present residence of Mrs. Susan Burditt. Mr. Burditt and his wife both died in this town.

We know little of Samuel Smith. He married Rebecca, daughter of Abraham Owen, December 24, 1804, and located in the westerly part of the town, on the easterly slope of the

hill west of Thomas Beals' place—now Rufus Thomas'. The house he occupied was about one-half mile from Mr. Beals'.

From that place he removed to Canada where he resided a few years, and then returned to Pittsford and occupied the house now owned by Haskell Burditt. This house formerly stood on the William Beals farm, but was removed to its present position by Mr. Smith, who resided there a few years and then moved to Michigan where he died.

Isaac Leonard was from Easton, Mass. His father, Jacob Leonard, was born in Easton in 1746, and married Jerusha Capen who was born in Stoughton, Mass., in 1750. They located in Easton where were born the following children, viz.: Isaac, Jacob, Capen and Militiah. On the 11th of July, 1801, Jacob, the father, purchased of Elisha Bradford a tract of wild land in Vermont, a part of which lay in the northeast part of Pittsford and a part in Chittenden. The Pittsford portion was, in 1805, deeded to his son Isaac* who built a house and made the first improvements on it. Before this, however, in 1795, he had married Ruth Fuller† of Sharon, and they came to Pittsford and located on this land which is the farm now owned by their son Martin. Mr. Leonard died in 1855; Mrs. Leonard in 1839.

Samuel Mead, son of John, married Anne, daughter of Elijah Brown, Jr., March 13, 1805, and resided some time with his brother-in-law, Nathan Nelson, on the place now owned by George Brown. Mrs. Mead, at the time of her marriage, was only about fourteen years of age. The latter part of their married life was passed in the easterly part of the township on the farm now owned by J. McCaul. There Mr. Mead died, January 11, 1831. Mrs. Mead died in Troy, N. Y., May 31, 1866.

William Beals, from Cornish, N. H., came here in 1806,

* Born in 1772 in Easton.

† Born in 1776.



George Washington

and bought the place upon which Richard Adams had resided, and made the first improvements. Mr. Beals built a new house and barn some rods northeast of the house built by Mr. Adams, and here he resided till his death, when the farm passed into the possession of his son William, Jr. This has for years been known as the Beals farm, but it is now owned by John Eggleston.

Sturges Penfield, son of John, Sen., was born in New Fairfield, Conn., Sept. 1, 1780, and came to Pittsford with his father's family in 1796. While a young man he learned the hatter's trade of a Mr. Butler of Rutland. On the 12th of January, 1806, he married Laura Giddings, who was born January 23, 1785. This event took place in New Fairfield. The pair came directly to Pittsford and resided in a house which stood on the same spot where they ever after lived and where they died. This house was formerly the saddler shop of Mr. Penfield's brother John, but it had been removed and fitted up for a dwelling house. His father built him a hat shop which stood five or six rods south of the house, and in this he carried on hat making some years. This building has recently been removed, and it is now the house occupied by John Lique. In 1808, Mr. Penfield built a store at the corner of the road, on the ground formerly occupied by his brother's saddle shop and traded there about ten years. Then, in company with his brothers, Allen and Abel, he bought the woolen factory, which had been operated for some time by Stephen Avery and others; and here they carried on wool-carding, and manufacturing and dressing cloth. After a few years the three brothers dissolved their copartnership, when Mr. Sturges Penfield bought his brothers' interest in the stock property, though he did little manufacturing. Retiring from business, he devoted the remnant of his life to light horticultural pursuits. He was a man of strong constitution, great energy and strict integrity. He

was also an exemplary Christian, and did much to support the religious institutions of the town.

Martin Leach, the son of Abisha and Patience (Wood) Leach, was born in Easton, Mass., in 1771. He became a blacksmith by trade and worked with his brother Andrew in Pittsford as early as 1798; and afterwards, he worked at his trade in Middlebury. In 1801, he married Sylvia Powers of Norton, Mass., who was born in 1774, and they located in Cummington where they resided till 1806, when they came to Pittsford and resided on the place now owned by Asa Nourse. The house they occupied has since been removed, and it is now the house owned by Jeduthan Thomas. During the time of his residence on that place, he worked at his trade in the shop, which stood a few rods west of the house. But wishing to devote his time to agriculture he sold this place in 1809, and bought the farm then owned by Martin Mead, and now by Moses P. Humphrey. The construction of the house—the one now on the farm—had been commenced by Mr. Mead, but it was not finished. Mr. Leach completed the work and soon occupied it. The most of the improvements on that farm are the result of his labor. He died in 1855; Mrs. Leach, in 1858.

Elisha Cox, son of William, married Abigail, daughter of Edward Clifford, Sen., March 6, 1806, and located on the home farm. The house he occupied had been built by his father, and it stood on the east side of the present highway and about sixty rods south of the stone house owned by Mr. Sargent. Mr. Cox was a soldier from this town in the war of 1812, and after the war he became somewhat embarrassed in his financial matters, sold his farm to his brother-in-law, Ebenezer Conant, of Brandon, and moved to Canada.

William Ripley, son of Phineas, married Ellis Durfee, October 26, 1806, and located on the homestead, where he resided till 1818, when he moved to the State of Ohio.



Joseph Tottlingham

Stephen Wood, a stone-cutter by trade, married Deborah Avery, July 13, 1806, and located on the place formerly owned by Dr. William Frisbie. His principal business was the making of gravestones, and he quarried his stone from a ledge now owned by Abraham Owen, and lying a little southeast of the residence of Abel Morgan. He changed his residence several times while a citizen of the town and left it about the year 1814.

The Tottingham families of this country have mostly descended from Henry Tottingham (or Tottman as formerly often written and pronounced) who was born in England, but was in Charlestown in 1640, when and where he subscribed the "Town Orders" for Woburn. He removed shortly after to Woburn; was taxed there in 1645, 1646, 1666; and had a right assigned him, in 1668, in the common lands of the town. By his wife, Anna, he had—1st, Nehemiah, born Aug. 23, 1646, died 28th March, 1714; 2d, Elijah, born Feb. 28, 1651. Anna, his wife, died Feb. 23, 1658, and he married Alice Alger, July 13, 1654. Elijah, son of Henry, married Mary —, and had Anna, Mary, Sarah, Henry, Elisha, Elizabeth, Alice and Arminell. Elisha, son of Elijah and Mary, was born July 22, 1696, and married Rebecca —, by whom he had Rebecca, Elisha, Elizabeth, John, Phebe and Abigail. Elisha, son of Elisha and Rebecca, married Sarah Lawrence of Woburn, May 27, 1736, and had Elisha, Sarah, Nathaniel, Ephraim, Moses, Jonathan, James, Rebecca, Abigail and David. Nathaniel, son of Elisha and Sarah (Lawrence), was born June 10, 1740, married Esther Brown, of Lexington, and settled in Westminster, Mass. Joseph Tottingham, supposed to have been the son of Nathaniel, was born in Westminster, September 14, 1783, came to Pittsford in 1805, and on the 14th of August of that year he bought one acre of land with the buildings thereon, the land the same that is now owned by Mrs. Elizabeth Bogue. This purchase was made of William

Baxter, and the house, an old one, was, some years after, burnt. Mr. Tottingham married, January 16, 1806, Nancy Wood who was born in Westminster, Feb. 16, 1786. They located, in February, on the place purchased in Pittsford, and resided on the same till 1813, when Mr. T. purchased of Jonathan Kendall a farm of which part is now owned by Abraham Owen. He resided in the Kendall house till 1816, when he built a new house—the same now owned and occupied by Mr. Owen. Mrs. Tottingham died Nov. 9, 1841. Mr. Tottingham died July 4, 1859. He was a man of great moral worth, a deacon of the Congregational church, and one of the men who organized the Pittsford Temperance Society.

Amos Crippen, son of Samuel, was born May 22, 1778, and was the only son in his father's family, though he had two sisters. After the death of his father, about the year 1788, he was placed in the family of Samuel Fairfield, of Whipple Hollow, where he remained eight or ten years. Some time in this period he came near being drowned in Otter Creek. It appears that he was visiting his cousin, Darius Crippen, at some time when there was no bridge over the Creek near Roger Stevens'. The water was high and he attempted to cross the stream in a boat at the fordway, but had proceeded only a short distance from the bank when, by some mismanagement, the boat was upset and he was precipitated into deep water. Some boys on the bank gave the alarm, and Abel Stevens, being in the hay-field near, ran to his rescue and saved him. He learned the trade of a blacksmith and, about the year 1806, married Lucy, daughter of John Hitchcock, Jr., and located on the place now owned by Nehemiah Barnes. His house and shop stood on the west side of the road. February 25, 1814, he bought of John Hitchcock, Jr., sixty acres of land which included the principal part of the farm now owned by Lewis White. The house in which Mr. White now resides was built by Mr. Crippen. In a few years he sold that



Andrew Dearth

place and bought the one which had been owned by Lyman Rockwood—now owned by James Bucknam—and occupied the house, working at his trade in the shop on the opposite side of the road. He removed to the State of Pennsylvania about the year 1855, and died there in August, 1864. He was twice married. His wife Lucy having died, he subsequently married Mrs. Lucinda Ives, who now lives in this town.

Moses Haven, Jan. 7, 1807, married Polly, daughter of Samuel Davis, who was born March 7, 1787. He resided some years in a log house which stood on the west side of the road, about one hundred rods north of the late residence of Israel Burdett, deceased. He removed from the town some years since.

Andrew Leach was the son of Abisha, who was born at Titicut, Mass., March, 1740, and in 1765; married Patience Wood who was born at Bridgewater, September, 1745. They located in Easton, where were born Andrew, Philip, Martin, Jason, Shepherd, Cephas, Solomon, Jerusha and Anne. Andrew, the eldest, born Dec. 14, 1768, became a blacksmith by trade, came to Pittsford in 1795, and worked some time in the shop formerly occupied by Elias Hopkins. In 1805, he purchased what has since been known as the Leach farm, including land now owned by William C. Cotting, Joshua D. Barber, Jeffrey A. Randall, Henry F. Lothrop and Asa Norton, with some land on the north side of the present highway. He built a blacksmith shop near where Thomas Tennian's shop now stands, and in 1806, built the house now owned by W. C. Cotting. On the 24th of February, 1807, he married Mary Powers,* and occupied the new house. His wife Mary died in June, 1810, and the following October he married Deborah Spooner, who was born in New London, Conn., February,

* Born in 1777.

1779. Mrs. Deborah Leach died February 7, 1823, and Mr. Leach married Olivia Moulton, of Fairhaven, Nov. 13th, the same year. Mr. Leach died September 15, 1852. Mrs. Olivia Leach died August 27, 1840. The following extract from an obituary, published shortly after Mr. Leach's death, probably shows the true character of the man:

"He removed to Pittsford when a young man, and by industry and energy in business as a mechanic accumulated considerable property, and on account of his integrity, promptness and trustworthiness, has ever held a prominent station in the community. The cause of education found in Mr. Leach a firm and steadfast friend. Though his own education was very limited, yet having a strong native intellect, he became a very intelligent man, and cherished enlarged and liberal views of the importance of mental training and development. • • • • He early made a profession of religion, and united with the Congregational church of which he remained, to the time of his death, one of the most useful and active members. Decision and constancy were the most prominent traits in his character. In no pursuit could it be said of him that when 'he put his hand to the plow he looked back,' and least of all could this be said of him in the work of religion. In late years especially, when old age and infirmity were upon him he sought no relaxation from Christian duty, but manifestly grew in grace as he advanced in years, and continued unto the end. The heart of Mr. Leach was fixed on the object of building up the Savior's kingdom. This was manifest not only from his diligence in Christian duties at home, but from the liberality with which he contributed of his substance to send the gospel abroad. All the principal societies for the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom received from him a constant, and according to his means, an uncommonly liberal support. For many years his annual contributions to Domestic

Missions was twenty dollars, and to Foreign Missions one hundred dollars. "In eleven successive years, he has made as many members of his family—himself, children, and wife's children—life members of the American Board."

Jonathan Dike, son of Jonathan, was born in Chittenden, April 16, 1786, and in May, 1808, married Tamesin, born January 4, 1787, daughter of Thomas Hammond, and located on the June farm. Mr. Dike built a house on the east side of the present highway, and about midway betwixt the old June house and the present stone house on the Cox farm. He was a Deputy Sheriff some years, and was eventually appointed Sheriff of the county, when he removed to Rutland where his wife died Aug. 23, 1829. Mr. Dike died in Crown Point, N. Y., 1871.

Solomon Farr, Jr., a moulder by trade, married Mabel Dean, January 3, 1808, and located on the place now owned by Mrs. Eliza Connell. He resided in the town but a few years and the most of this time was spent in the service of Gibbs & Co., at the Furnace.

Justin Darling was born in Marlboro', Mass., October 30, 1784, and his early life was spent in that township. He came to Pittsford when a young man, married Margaret, daughter of Caleb Cooley, March 17, 1808, and located in the house now owned by Mrs. Margaret Hennessey. They resided in this town till 1836, when they moved to the western part of the State of New York.

Daniel Sherman was the son of Daniel who was born in Massachusetts, in July, 1763, and married Anna Knight who was born May 8, 1766. They died in Bolton, leaving one son, Daniel, who was born July 23, 1785. He became a wheelwright, and having migrated to this town in 1806, he bought the place now owned by his son Henry. In 1808 he married Polly Gorham, who was born in Connecticut, April 16, 1790. Mr. Sherman built the house and other buildings now owned

by his son. He worked at his trade a large proportion of the time till his death, June 29, 1854.

John Dimick, from Sullivan, N. H., located here in 1808. He bought of Michael Sanders the farm now owned by Joseph Wolcott, the deed being dated November 3, 1808. The first improvements on that farm were made by Mr. Sanders who resided some time in a log house which stood on the west side of the road, and some distance northwest of the present house which Mr. Sanders had built before he sold the farm to Dimick.

Jacob Thayer married Wealthy Crossman and located in Easton, Mass. In 1809, he came with his family to Pittsford and purchased the farm now owned by Mrs. Eliza Connell.

Samuel Wheeler was born in 1787. His birth-place is not known to the writer, though his parents resided some years in this town. In 1809, he married Catherine—born Nov. 22, 1789—daughter of Caleb Cooley, and resided a few years in the family of his father-in-law. He afterwards removed to the Isle La Motte, Grand Isle County, where he died, April 10, 1851. Mrs. Wheeler died Feb. 5, 1869.

John June, son of Joshua, born in 1780, married Lydia, daughter of Ebenezer Lyman, January 1, 1809, and resided some years on the Lyman farm—now David Scofield's. After changing his residence several times he settled in Brundon, where he died in June, 1866.

Zachariah Rand became a resident of this town in 1809. He was the son of Col. John Rand who was residing in Narragansett, Mass., in 1753, whose first wife, Elizabeth, died Dec. 14, 1756, and who married, 1766, widow Tabitha Stedman. He had Zachariah, John, Thomas, William, Samuel, and four daughters. He sustained important town offices and rose to the rank of Colonel in the militia. He also served as Colonel in the Revolution. He died Dec. 11, 1789, in the sixty-seventh year of his age. His eldest son, Zachariah, born in Westminster, Mass., was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His name

is found upon the roll of a company of eight-months men who enlisted into the service immediately after the Lexington alarm. At the time when the alarm was excited by the Bennington fight, in August, 1777, his name is found upon the roll of a company of men who marched from Westminster and were in service ten days. After the war he married Jerusha Sawyer and located in Westminster, his native town. He had the following children, viz.: Asa, Phebe, Nathaniel, Jerusha, Tamar, Lucinda, Susanna, Betsey, John Stark, Ebenezer Blanchard, Diantha. In January, 1809, he removed from Westminster to Pittsford, Vt., and located on the Powers farm in Sugar Hollow, now owned by Watson C. Rand and William Nicholas. Mr. Rand died here in April, 1826; Mrs. Rand died August 13, 1844.

Some of the public acts of the past ten years will appear from the following quotations from the records of this period:

At a meeting held on the 24th of February, 1800, the town "voted, on application of Hiram Hopkins, that the selectmen for the time being, be authorized to Deed to Ephraim Morgan of Troy in the State of New York and his Heirs and Assigns, so much Land from off the S. E. Corner of S. side of the Plot of Land, on which the Meeting House now stands, as will compensate him or them for the Land which now lies in Common or Highway, which belonged to the said Morgan's House lot, now occupied by Hiram Hopkins and take a Deed to the Town of Pittsford of the Common Land from the said Morgan's Lot, and agreeable to the former contract made between the Town and the prior owner of sd Lot."

"Voted to raise a Tax of three Mills on a Dollar on the Grand List for A. D. 1799, payable on the first day of June next."

"Voted to raise a Tax of one Cent on a Dollar on the Grand List of A. D. 1800, payable in Rye, Wheat or Indian Corn on the first day of January next."

“Tuesday, March 25, 1800.

Voted that the Selectmen be allowed to grant liberty to any number of Individuals of sd Town, to build a Horse Shed or Sheds on the Town’s Land, near the Meeting House for his or their own use.”

“Tuesday, September 2, 1800.

Voted to Establish a Survey of a Road as a Town Road laid by the present Selectmen from Mr. Penfield’s, by Jenner’s Mill to Andrew Leach’s tavern.”

“March 3, 1801.

Voted that Swine be allowed to run at large well yoked and ringed, the Pound Keeper to be the Judge of the sufficiency of said Yokes and Rings.”

“Voted that there be a Committee of three to make arrangements for a squirrel hunt this spring and report to this or our next adjourned meeting. Chose Caleb Hendee, Jr., Caleb Cooley and Ebenezer Hopkins for said Committee.”

“Voted to raise a Town tax of one Cent and five Mills on the Dollar to be assessed on the Grand List of A. D. 1801.”

“Here follows a list of the persons’ names who were admitted by the Selectmen to the privileges of freemen and were duly sworn as the Law directs at the aforesaid meeting, viz.: Elisha Rich, Jr., Samuel Lucas, Edward Clifford, Paul Lucas, Timothy Taft, Eleazer Harwood, Jr., Calvin Comant, Heiman Johnson, Job Powers, William Allen, Jr., Jonathan Warner, Jr., Nathaniel Quincy, Gordon Newell, Joseph Johnson, James Hicock, Isaac Matson, Hiram Baxter, Thomas Joy, Hiram Phillips, Howard Lathrop, Peter Bressee, Jr., Isaac Clark, Calvin Wilder, Amos Churchill.

Attest, CALEB HENDEE, T. Clerk.”

“March 2, 1802.

Voted to give a bounty of the Town’s money of ten dollars, for each grown Wolf that shall be caught in the Town of

Pittsford, or pursued out of sd Town and caught by any Inhabitant or Inhabitants of sd town, and five dollars for each young Wolf caught as aforesaid.

On application to the Town to advance money to repair the bridge over Otter Creek near Tilly Walker's; It was voted that the Selectmen be, and they are hereby authorized on a view and examination of the premises, to use their discretion as it respects advancing money for the repairs thereof."

At Freenien's meeting Sept. 7, 1802, "the following persons were duly admitted and sworn as Freemen, viz.: Nathan Jenner, Nathan D. Wright, Asa Bluckiner, Richard Bristol, Thomas Winslow and John Kimball, all inhabitants of Pittsford.

Attest, CALEB HENDEE, T. Clerk."

"September 7, 1802.

Voted to raise a Town Tax of one Cent on a Dollar, to be assessed on the present year's list and made payable in Grain, on the first day of January next."

"March 8, 1803.

Voted to Build a Bridge over Otter Creek, near Mr. Mattson's Land within a year from this time."

"Sept. 6, 1803.

List of Freemen sworn at the foregoing Meeting—to wit; William Allen, Abel Wright, Jr., Daniel Pierce, Lot Hindson, Oliver C. Bogue, Elijah Brown, 3d, Simeon Purmelee, Jr., Ebenezer Titns, Jr., Robert Hoore, Union Keith and Samuel Buel.

Sworn by CALEB HENDEE, T. Clerk."

"September 6, 1803.

Voted to raise one Cent 2 Mill on the Dollar of the Grand List of the year 1803, *payable in Money* the 5th day of December next. Voted that the Selectmen have leave to set

up the Inoculation of the small-pox, to continue until the first of May next under the proper restrictions of the Law, in such cases provided."

"September 8, 1804.

Voted that the Selectmen be and they are hereby authorized to appropriate Seven Dollars of the Town's Money towards repairing the Bridge over Otter Creek, near Tilly Walker's, Providing that Neighborhood or others complete the remainder of sd repairs."

"Tuesday, September 3, 1805.

List of persons admitted to take the Freeman's oath, to wit: Abraham Bresee, Channey Fenn, Ezra Mead, Ira Ladd, John Gillett, Elias Plumb, Elisha Drury, Elias S. Mead and Jesse Wheeler.

Sworn before me, CALEB HENDEE, JR., T. Clerk."

"March 26, 1806.

List of Freemen admitted and sworn at the above Freemen's Meeting, viz: Israel Elsworth, Thomas Spencer, Solomon Hendee, Bradley Squire, Allen Cobb and Isaac Rowley.

September 2, 1806.

List of persons admitted and qualified as freemen as the Law directs, to wit: Reuben Wicker, William Ripley, Ozias Osborn, Nathan Wadsworth, Dan Dike, Elisha Woodruff, Jr., John Parsons, Elisha Hull, Samuel Fairfield, Jr., Chester Leonard, Allen Penfield, David Manley, Sardins Manley, Theophilus L. Rowe, Justine Darling, John Munson, Orin Polley, Isaac Gillett, Elisha Cox, Ashbel Purmelee, Ebenezer A. Walker, Timothy Tuft, Jr., Eli Gitchell and Thomas Wylbys.

Sworn,

Before me,

CALEB HENDEE, JR., Justice Peace."

Wolves committed such ravages among the sheep at this

period, that a public meeting, composed of men from this and the adjoining towns, was held at Kendall's hotel in Pittsford, the 16th of January, 1807, "for entering into measures for the destruction of wolves. The following is copied from the record of the "Proceedings of this General Conference:"

- 1st. Made choice of Gen. Amos Kellogg, Chairman.
- 2d. Chose Caleb Hendee, Jr., Clerk.
- 3d. Voted to recommend to the Inhabitants of the Towns of Rutland, Pittsford, Brandon, Philadelphia, Chittenden and Medway, to raise a bounty of twenty dollars in addition to the State bounty* for each grown Wolf that shall within the period hereafter named, be killed within the limits of either of the aforesaid Towns, or upon a fresh pursuit from within the same, to any other place and there killed, shall be entitled to the same Bounty, the person killing any Wolf in either of the cases aforesaid to give sufficient Evidence to the satisfaction of the Majority of the Selectmen of the Town in which the Wolf shall be killed, or pursued from, upon examination upon oath or otherwise.
- 4th. Voted that each Town shall pay their equal proportion of the aforesaid Bounty, according to the Grand List of the Respective Towns for the year A. D. 1806.
- 5th. Voted that the Period in which the wolves shall be killed to entitle the person killing to the aforesaid Bounty, shall be from the 16th day of January instant, until the first day of May next both days included.
- 6th. That from the first day of May until the first day of January next, the Bounty shall be ten Dollars in addition to the State Bounty, for each grown Wolf taken within the limits of either of the aforesaid Towns, the evidence given and money apportioned in the manner aforesaid.
- 7th. Voted that the several Towns make a return of the

* By a statute law of 1779, twenty dollars was to be paid by the State for every full grown wolf killed, and ten dollars for every wolf's whelp killed.

proceedings of the same to the Chairman and Clerk of this meeting at this place on the 5th day of February next.

8th. Voted to adjourn this meeting without day.

Done at Pittsford this 16th day of January, 1807.

Attest, AMOS KELLOGG, Chairman.

CALEB HENDEE, JR., Clerk."

Immediately after the adjournment of the aforesaid meeting, the selectmen of Pittsford issued a warrant for a town meeting to be held on the 30th day of the same month, at three o'clock in the afternoon, to see if the inhabitants would raise money by the Grand List or otherwise, to encourage the destruction of wolves, and to transact any other business thought necessary and proper when met. At the time appointed the meeting was organized by the choice of Adget Lathrop, Moderator; and the town then voted to accept the recommendation of the General Conference for destroying wolves. Also, "voted that the Selectmen be and they are hereby authorized to pay out of the Treasury such a sum as will be our proportion of the aforesaid additional bounty, with those towns that may adopt the recommendations, under the same regulations as therein specified, after deducting the share of sd bounty that would fall to those towns that do not accept the recommendations."

"March 3, 1807.

Voted that the Selectmen purchase at the expense of the town a Spade, Pick Ax and Pull Cloth. Voted to allow Mr. Tottingham four dollars for sweeping the Meeting House the year past."

"At the Freemen's meeting September 1st, 1807, the following were admitted and qualified as freemen, viz: Danforth Wales, Joseph Durfy, Josiah Hopkins, Isinh Noyes, Samuel Warner, Eli Stevens, Bela Rogers, Stephen Stark, John Lilly, Daniel Keith, Phineas Woodruff, Edward Gibbs, Abraham Thomas and Michael Fairfield."

At Freeemen's meeting, held on the first Tuesday of September, 1808, the following persons were admitted as freemen and sworn, viz: Nathn Gibbs, Abijah Tucker, Isreal Brewster, Lewis Phillips, Simeon Gilbert, Willium Barlow, Benjamin Bachelder, John Miller, Daniel Sherman, Benjamin Salisbury, Luke Osgood, Josiah Wicker, Nathn Gibbs, Jr., Isaac Leonard, Stephen Jenner, Jr., Charles Lamb, Joseph Tottingham, Samuel Riggs, Ephraim Farrar, Abner Jackson, Thomas Walker, Otis Chapp, Ezekiel Bebee, Beriah Grundy, Jr., Mae Lincoln, Solomon Thayer, Sammel Gould, Samuel Merriam, Peter Thomas, William Benls, Lyman B. Walker, Ephraim Dunlap, Jacob Thayer, James Lamb, Cornelius Bresee, Lewis Barlow, Homer Potter, Scotland Keith, Cornelius Gibbs, Samuel Rowley, Jonnathan Dike, Jereniah F. Wood, Peter Morgan, David Hendee and John Foster."

In February, 1809, occurred one of those exciting wolf hunts which occasionally took place in the early history of the town. One bright moon-light night, Adget Lothrop heard an unusual noise in his sheepfold. Hurrying out to ascertain the cause of such disturbance, he discovered among his sheep two wolves, which had already killed some eight or nine of the flock. After frightening away the wolves, he called up his boys and sent them to almost every house in the town to notify the people to assemble early in the morning for a general wolf hunt. The call was promptly responded to, and by day-light in the morning, people from all directions began to assemble at Mr. Lothrop's.

After the wolves had been driven from the sheepfold, they went directly to the Creek which they followed northward upon the ice. The snow was deep, and as the wind had blown it off from the ice, the Creek afforded a much easier path than the banks did. When they had reached a point opposite Elder Harrington's, they were discovered by Willium Harrington, the Elder's eldest son, who had risen at a very early hour, and was

at a barn on the bank of the Creek, feeding some cattle. With pitchfork in hand he turned them and drove them back, southward. When they were a little above the Mead road, finding their retreat in that direction cut off, they left the Creek and went into the swamp on the west side, then mostly owned by Peter Rice. This was soon surrounded by the hunters, but as they began to close in upon the beasts, both escaped through the ring and fled to the highland, southward, near the residence of Tilly Walker. The hunters were not long in encircling this highland, but again the wolves escaped, crossed the Creek and went into the swamp near the foot of Sutherland Falls. By this time the number of hunters had so increased that this swamp was enclosed by a very strong force. As the encircling ring closed in, the wolves were driven upon the ice just at the foot of the Falls, and there they were shot, one by Ezra Spencer, and the other by a marksman standing in Sutherland's saw-mill, but whose name is not now remembered.

After the wolves had been killed, the retreat was sounded and the hunters re-assembled in the road, not far from the present residence of Mr. Patch, where Gen. Caleb Hendee, who was one of their number, took a list of their names, in order to make a just distribution of the bounty money. This list of names as taken by Gen. Hendee may be seen in the Appendix of this book. After their names had been taken, the most of them, some in sleighs and others on foot, went to Merriam's store in the Village, where liquor was served out to their satisfaction. It was a time of general hilarity with them; and it would not be strange if some of them made crooked tracks as they departed for their homes.

CHAPTER IX.

Immigrants and their Locations continued; Extracts from the Records; The Great Flood. 1810—1820.

John Hall was of English descent. His father, whose name was also John, married and located in Canaan, Conn., where he resided till a short time before the Revolutionary war, when he removed to Castleton, Vt., and located a short distance east of the village, where the Hubbardton road intersects the road leading from Rutland to Castleton. He was mortally wounded in a fight with a detachment of Burgoyne's army near his own house, on Sunday, immediately after the battle of Hubbardton; and during the few days he survived he was brutally treated by the Tories. His children—Elias, John, Royal, Ira, Samuel, Harvey, Mercy, Mary and Olive—with one or two exceptions, were born in Canaan. Elias located in Castleton. He was a lieutenant in the Revolutionary war, and served with distinction. John, born July 3, 1747, married Mary Stevens, of Canaan, and resided a short time in his native town. While the Revolutionary war was in progress he entered the army and served a short time as orderly sergeant. After its close he returned to Canaan. About the year 1810, he removed to Pittsford and resided a short time on a part of the Matson farm, now owned by I. C. Whenton, though he never owned real estate here. From this town he removed to Chittenden, and from thence to Luzzerne, Warren County, N. Y., where he died about the year 1842. His wife died at the same place.

Samuel Warner, son of Eleazer, born May 24, 1785, married Mercy, daughter of Nathan Smith, of Granby, March 15,

1810, and located on the farm now owned by the heirs of Douglas Bates. This farm was first improved by John Titus, who resided some years in a log house which stood a little north of the present house. Mr. Titus sold this farm to Eleazer Warner, who deeded it to his son Samuel. The latter resided on it till 1835, when he sold it, and has since resided with his children. From his youth he was blessed with a good constitution, and he is still quite vigorous. Mrs. Warner died May 31, 1864.

Allen Penfield, son of John, was born in New Fairfield—now Sherman—Conn., July, 3, 1785. He married Anna, daughter of Thomas Hammond, December 27, 1810, and took his father's place in the hotel—now the residence of William B. Shaw. The following year his father built the house now owned by John Stevens, and in that he resided till his death. Allen continued to manage the hotel till 1828, when he sold it to German Hammond and removed to Crown Point. He has been an active, energetic man, prompt and reliable in his business transactions. He has now retired with an ample fortune, and resides with a daughter, Mrs. Dr. Nichols, at Burlington. Mrs. Penfield, died at Crown Point, N. Y., in 1859.

Eli Mead, son of John, married Sally, daughter of Walter Houghton, September 16, 1810. He and his younger brother assumed the care of the home farm where they spent a few years and then moved to the West.

We know but little of Josiah Parsons. He purchased of Walter Houghton* the farm now owned by Warren Clafsee, and he and his son Arza resided there till about the year 1830, when Abel Penfield bought the farm, and they removed from the town.

Eli Stevens, son of Daniel, married Philecta Wheeler in 1810, and located on the small place next east of the farm of

*Mr. Houghton made the first improvements on that farm.



Miss Penfield

Abel Morgan and resided there four years. In 1821, he bought the farm which was once the property of Roger Stevens, Jr., and confiscated in consequence of his treasonable conduct. He removed to Cornwall in 1839, and died there in 1859.

Nathan Hawley bought of Elisha Woodruff two and one-half acres of land including the north saw-mill, June 29, 1807. He was then living in Philadelphia, Vt. On the 24th of October, 1809, he bought of John Merriam* the Dr. Abinathar Millard place, and the following winter removed his family to this town. He died in the house now owned by Miss Achsah Leach, June 7, 1849, aged eighty years. Mrs. Hawley died in Brandon, April 23, 1851, aged eighty-six years.

Oliver Wolcott, son of Oliver, was born in Massachusetts, Jun. 16, 1761. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, married Lydia Haynes, of Natick, Mass., Feb. 24, 1792, and resided in that State till 1810, when he leased, of the Selectmen of Pittsford, fifty acres of the school right which had been pitched on the hill west of the present residence of Rufus Thomas. He resided some time in a log house, some one hundred rods southwest of the house now owned by Mr. Thomas. He afterwards resided on the Benjamin Stevens farm, and from thence he removed to the Owens farm, now owned by Orlin Smith, where he died, August 10, 1845. Mrs. Lydia Wolcott died November 6, 1844.

Samuel Hendee, born April 23, 1791, son of Caleb Hendee, Sen., married Abigail Paine, of Leicester, Dec. 2, 1810, and located on the home farm with his parents. He is an industrious, quiet, faithful man, and is one of the deacons in the Baptist church, as was also his father. He has never left the farm which he inherited from his father, and this is one of the few instances in which a farm is still owned and occupied by the posterity of an original settler.

* Merriam bought this place of Dr. Millard in the spring of 1808.

Renben Mead, the youngest son of John, married Sophia Howe, December 22, 1811, and located on the home farm with his parents. On the 30th of November, 1813, his father deeded him thirty-seven acres of the homestead. He and his brother Eli resided on the farm till after the death of their parents and then left the town.

Elisha Adams, Jr., son of Elisha, married Stella, daughter of Oliver Bogue, in 1811, and after residing a few months with his father-in-law, moved to Malone, N. Y., where he remained four years; thence he removed to Norfolk, where Mrs. Adams died in 1826. Mr. Adams died in Canada about the year 1850.

Solomon Hendee, son of Deacon Caleb, was born October 30, 1784, and resided with his parents till he married Lois Paine, of Leicester, January 21, 1811. His father as early as the 23d of March, 1806, gave him one hundred and sixty acres of land which included the farm now owned by his son-in-law, Roswell Woodcock. He commenced improvements on it soon after, and built a log house where the small cottage now stands, a few rods back of the stone house. After his marriage he occupied that house till he built the stone house in 1828. Mr. Hendee died July 16, 1863. Mrs. Hendee died in 1870.

Elijah Brown, 3d, son of Elijah, Jr., was born in Rutland, April 15, 1782, about two years before his parents removed to Pittsford. He became a tanner and currier, and on the 3d of September, 1805, bought of Andrew Prindle one-half of the Nelson tannery, and November 11, 1808, he bought of Elias Plumb the other half of it. On the 9th of December, 1811, he married Mary Williams who was born in Rutland, July 22, 1792. He and his brother, Samuel A., carried on business together till 1827, when Elijah sold his interest in the tannery to his brother and bought the Webster tavern. He kept a public house till 1839, when he sold his location to Michael Sanders and afterwards was engaged in man-

ganese operations in Chittenden. He was accidentally killed on the railroad in Providence, R. I., Jan. 20, 1860. Mrs. Brown died in Chittenden, Feb. 18, 1847.

Ezra Spencer, son of William, born in 1790, married Nancy Snell in January, 1811, and after residing two years on the Cox farm, moved to Pennsylvania. His wife died in the spring of 1813. He returned to Pittsford and was one of the Plattsburgh volunteers in 1814. He married Mary Whitney in January, 1815, and again moved to Pennsylvania. He returned to Pittsford in 1819, and purchased of William Allen the Simeon Clifford farm, upon which he located and resided till 1843, when he purchased of Edward Lowth the Purdy farm—now D. J. Griffith's. He purchased the Gibbs place in Hitchcockville, in 1865, and this has since been his residence.

Consider Bowen located in this town in 1811. He was born in Rehoboth, Mass., in 1753, and in early life he went to Providence, R. I., where he served an apprenticeship with a carriage-maker. He was in the American army during the Revolutionary war, was in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and was with the army in most of its operations on the Hudson. After the close of the war he worked at his trade in Hartford, Conn., where he married, about the year 1788, Sabra Hosmer, who was born in 1760. After residing in Hartford some fifteen years he removed to that part of Chittenden, Vt., known as New Boston. On the 14th of October, 1811, he bought of Allen Bowen, the easterly part of the Woodward farm. Allen Bowen had purchased this of his father, Simeon Bowen, who had purchased it of John, son of Joshua Woodward, March 2, 1807. Mr. Consider Bowen died on this farm in 1834. Mrs. Bowen died in 1854.

Jacob Sheldon was a descendant of William, who with three brothers, Abraham, Ephraim and Nathaniel, settled in Reading, Mass., in the early period of its history. William

had two sons, Samuel and William; the latter was killed in the French war by the Indians. Samuel married and resided a few years in Reading, and then removed to Wilton, N. H. His wife's maiden name was Wellman. They had five sons and three daughters. Their sons were Jacob, Samuel, William, Michael and Uzziel; their daughters, Sarah, Tamar and Ziba. Jacob, born December 8, 1763, married Dorothy Lovjoy, in 1792, and located in Nelson, N. H. There he resided a few years and then removed to Andover, Vt. They had four sons, Jacob, John, Joel and Joseph; and two daughters, Sarah and Dorothy. Jacob, the eldest, born at Nelson, May 19, 1794, married Joanna, daughter of Nathan Hawley of Pittsford, and located in the house now owned by Mrs. Elizabeth Bogue. He was a blacksmith by trade, and worked in the shop which, at that time, stood on ground now forming C. A. Hitchcock's garden, west of his house. Mr. Sheldon's wife Joanna died, and he married Louisa Tinkham, a native of Greenwich, Mass., October 20, 1822. After the death of Mr. Hawley, about the year 1848, he purchased of his heirs the place now owned by C. A. Hitchcock and resided there till his death, August 5, 1851. Mrs. Louisa Sheldon died August 7, 1859.

John Hawkins married Persis Hitchcock, March 1, 1812, and located in the old house which has been mentioned as once the residence of Joshua Woodward. This he had purchased of Joshua Brooks of Salisbury, March 5, 1811. He changed his residence several times, but died in this town.

Thomas Burditt, son of Thomas, of Lynn, Mass., was born at that place in February, 1781, and in January, 1812, married Susan, daughter of Reuben and Elizabeth Weston of Malden. He located in Pittsford, and bought one hundred acres of land lying south, or a little southwest, of the farm now owned by Marshall Thomas. There he built a frame house in which he resided eleven years. He then bought the farm upon which he

afterwards lived and died. He cleared the most of the cultivated land on that farm and built the house and barn that are on it. He died February 16, 1860.

Peter McCollum married Nancy Parkman, December 2, 1813. Just before his marriage he had built a house on land then owned by Israel Lake. This house stood a few rods east of the present residence of D. J. Grifflith, and McCollum resided there some years before he became a landholder; but on the 9th of November, 1826, he purchased of Israel Lake a piece of land bounded south by land of Elijah Adams; west by the road leading from said Adams' to the school house; and north by the Johnson farm—now Alexander Parmelee's. The same deed included the house in which he then resided. That house has been twice moved, and is now the first house north of Nathaniel Willis', on the west side of the road. McCollum left the town about the year 1843.

Ebenezer Merriam married Polly, daughter of Ozem Strong, Aug. 2, 1813, and resided for a time in what was known as the "gambrel-roof house," which stood where Mr. Randall's brick house now stands. He was employed as clerk for his brother John, in the store, for about four years, and then moved to the State of Virginia.

Jonathan Tilson, a cabinet-maker by occupation, was born in New Braintree, Mass., May 17, 1786. He came to Pittsford in the winter of 1812, and bought of Chester Leonard the place where he afterwards lived and died. The deed of this purchase was dated February 25th. February 8, 1813, he married Charlotte Wood, who died March, 5, 1814. Mr. Tilson married Almira Simmons, of Easton, Mass., Nov. 10, 1815. He died March 13, 1858. Mrs. Tilson resides on the homestead and is an invalid.

Stephen Powers, born September 4, 1791, son of Peter, married Diadama, daughter of Zebulon Pond, Sen., January 27, 1814, and located with his parents on the farm now owned

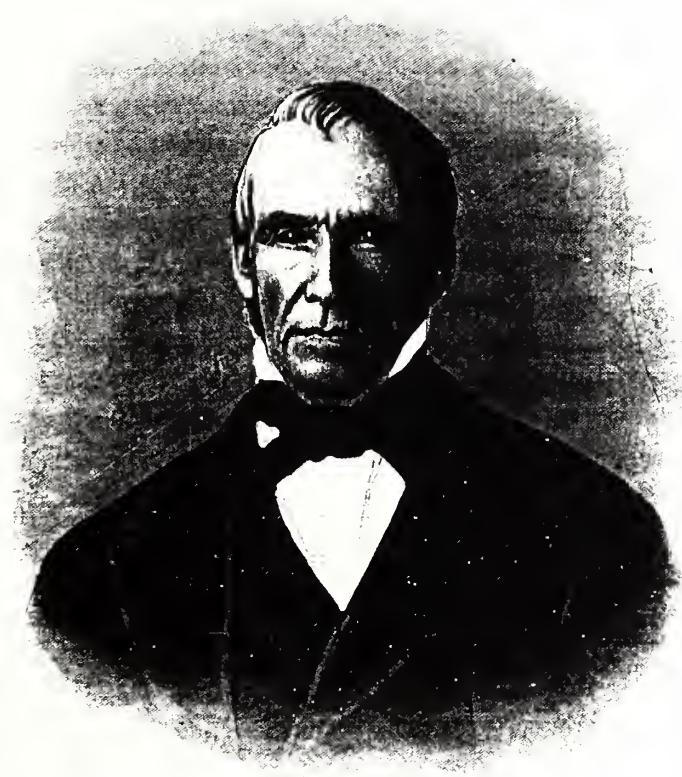
by George N. Eayres. He changed locations several times during his life, residing at one time in the first house* east of the present residence of Mrs. Mary G. Hendee, the one recently repaired and now owned by Chester Granger. His wife Dindanna died in 1843, and he afterwards married again, but eventually went to reside with his son-in-law, Joel Thomas, and died there Sept. 3, 1862.

John Barnes, son of John, born September 10, 1787, married September 14, 1814, Electa Dimick† who was born August 25, 1793. He resided for a time in the Ewings tavern which his father had purchased. The next spring, March 30, 1815, his father deeded one undivided half of the same to him and his brother Jeffrey. John, Jr., bought of Jirah Barlow the Tupper farm February 28, 1825, and at once removed there with his family. Mr. Barnes was a soldier in the war of 1812-14, and for a time held the rank of orderly sergeant. He died December 1, 1856, and his son, John Randolph, now owns and occupies the paternal homestead.

Asher Burditt was a native of Gilsum, N. H. His father, Ebenezer, born in Lancaster, Mass., in 1761, spent his early life on a farm. At the commencement of the Revolutionary war, he and another brother enlisted in the service of their country, and were attached to a privateer which put to sea and soon captured a British ship that had been preying upon American commerce. The trophy of their victory, however, was lost, for as they were about to board the vessel her magazine exploded and she soon disappeared forever, with all but twelve of her crew. After the close of the war the two brothers returned to Lancaster. Asher married Ruth Loveland of Gilsum, N. H., in 1785, and settled in that town. Their children were Ebenezer, Asher, Abel, Israel, Ammon, David, Gilman, Ruth, Mary

* This house was formerly John and Henry Simonds' store, and stood on the ground now occupied by the brick store in the village.

† Daughter of John Dimick, formerly of Sullivan, N. H.



Luther Burdett

and Charlotte. Asher, born March 31, 1788, married Melinda Davis, of Chester, Vt., March 24, 1814. The following year he came to Pittsford and located on the farm now owned by his son Ransom. He had purchased fifty acres, a part of the first-division lot of the right of Alexander Scott, November 17, 1814. This included the most of the land in that farm lying on the west side of the road, and Mr. Burditt occupied the house which stood on the same ground where once stood the log cabin of Samuel Crippen. On the 11th of May, 1826, Mr. Burditt bought of Jason Hurwood thirty-three acres on the east side of the road, including the house now occupied by Austin Chingreau, and which had been built by Mr. Harwood. Mr. Burditt resided in this house till 1846, when he bought of Harris Bogue the farm now owned by his son, Franklin Burditt, and there he resided till his death, October 22, 1855. He was twice married; his wife Melinda having died Feb. 21, 1832, he married Mrs. Damaris C. Deming, daughter of Oliver Bogue, in 1834.

Luke Dean, son of James, married Mary Thomas, January 12, 1815. He located on the farm north of and adjoining Enos Briley's farm, the place that Nathaniel Willis recently bought of Augustus Bailey. Mr. Dean occupied an old house that formerly stood where the present house stands.

Capen Leonard, son of Jacob, was born in Easton, Mass., in 1782, and in 1802 he married Mehitable Forbes who was born in Bridgewater in 1778. They located in Chittenden, Vt., but removed to Pittsford in 1815, and settled on the farm first improved by Chapman Hitchcock—now the Alexander place. They afterwards resided on the Blair place at Mill Village, but returned to the Alexander place, where Mr. Leonard died, December 10, 1845. Mrs. Leonard died May 21, 1863.

Asa Moon, son of Jesse, married Tuniar Salisbury, Octo-

ber 31, 1816, and resided about one year with his father-in-law, Benjamin Salisbury, and then moved to the West.

Andrew Sutherland, born in 1776, son of Peter Sutherland, of Rutland, married Naomi, daughter of Col. Benjamin Cooley, January 6, 1807, and located with his parents at Sutherland's Falls. After the death of Col. Cooley his estate was divided among his heirs. Mrs. Sutherland inherited a part of her father's property, and in January, 1816, her husband bought of "Noah Beach and his wife Ennice"—mother daughter of Col. Cooley—their interest in the estate, and then moved on to the Cooley farm in this town. But in the fall of the same year they sold all of their real estate in Pittsford to Asher Burditt, Jason Harwood, R. M. Powers, and Harris and Alexander Bogue, and the following spring moved to the western part of the State of New York.

James D. Butler, born July 25, 1795, son of Anthony, married, Oct. 6, 1816, Rispuh, daughter of Samuel Morgan, and soon after located on the farm with his father-in-law. Mr. Butler has continued to occupy and improve that farm.

Ebenezer Conant, born June 5, 1777, married Fanny,* daughter of Edward Clifford, and located in Brandon. In 1816, he purchased of Elisha Cox the farm which had been the homestead of his deceased father, William Cox. Mr. Conant removed his family here this year, and soon after built the stone house—now the residence of Jimia Sargent—and made other improvements on the farm. He removed from the town in 1833, and for some years has resided in Geneva, Ill.

Charles G. Boardman is a descendant of Timothy, who was born in Weathersfield, Conn., December 2, 1727, and on the 14th day of November, 1750, married Jemima Johnson, who was born in the month of August, 1732. They located

* Born February, 1780.

in Middletown, where were born to them the following children, viz.: Timothy, Oliver, Mary, Elisha, Betsey, Joseph, Sarah and William. Timothy, the father, died in 1792; Jemima, the mother, in 1798. Timothy, the eldest son, born Jan. 20, 1754, married, Sept. 28, 1783, Mary Ward who was born October 21, 1753. They located in West Rutland, Vt., and had the following children, viz.: Hannah, Timothy, Mary, Samuel W., Elijah, Charles G. and Betsey. The mother died in West Rutland in December 1836; the father died in Middlebury, April 3, 1839. Charles G. the sixth child, married Submit Watkins, of Rutland, and located on the Abram Drury farm in Pittsford—now owned by Frank B. Barnes. This farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, had been purchased by his father, April 24, 1816, and now, 1817, he (Charles G.) took possession of it and kept a public house. He was assisted, however, by his older brother, Samuel W., who shared with him the profits. On the 5th of March, 1823, Timothy Boardman deeded to his son, Charles G., the tavern-stand and sixteen acres of land, and to his son Samuel W., eighty-four acres of the north part of the Drury farm. Charles G. kept the hotel till 1837, when he sold it to Nehemiah Barnes and removed to Rutland, where he now resides.

David Hall, Jr., son of John, of Newport, N. H., was a stone-cutter by occupation, having learned his trade of his cousin, John Hall, of Sudbury. On the 10th of March, 1817, he married his cousin Abigail, daughter of David Hall, Sen., of Pittsford, and resided a short time in Brandon, and also in Sudbury, from which town he came to Pittsford and occupied the house built by Dr. Frisbie, then standing on land now owned by Bradley Burdett. He removed to London, Michigan, about the year 1830.

Lyman Hitchcock, eldest son of Remembrance, was born in 1796, married Parthena Weed, in December, 1817, and located with his parents on the farm now owned by George N.

Eayres. He resided a few years in Rutland, but the most of his married life was spent in Chittenden. He died while on a visit at the residence of Henry Merrill in Pittsford, in January, 1846.

Enos Bailey, son of Enos, married Relief Johnson, January 1, 1818, and resided a few years with his parents on the farm now owned by H. C. Stetson. The first improvements on that farm were made by Enos Bailey, Sen., and the house was built by him about the year 1806. His son Enos resided there but a limited period after his marriage.

Jabez Lather, from Rhode Island, came here in 1818, and resided a short time on the Daniel Stevens farm. He had had one arm amputated just above the elbow, and the other at the wrist; nevertheless he could do almost any kind of work; and the feats he performed were subjects of general remark. He changed his residence quite often while a citizen of the town, and removed to Dorset in 1830.

Timothy Lester, a blacksmith, from Hartford, Vt., came here in 1818, and bought of Amasa Weed the farm* now owned by Amos C. Kellogg. He built the brick house in 1831, and made other improvements on that farm which he sold to Samuel H. and Amos C. Kellogg in 1837, and removed from the town. He returned to this town and resided some four years in the house recently owned by Parker Kemp, then removed to the West.

Ansel Burr, son of Rufas and Lydia Burr, was born in Massachusetts, May 2, 1796, married Esther —— in 1818, and located on the farm now owned by Harvey Jackson. Both died in this town, Mr. Burr, Feb. 3, 1871; Mrs. Burr, some years earlier.

Nathaniel K. Andrews,† son of Kellogg, married Anniee, daughter of John Barnes, January 3, 1819. He resided a

* The John Hitchcock farm.

† Born in 1794.

short time on the place formerly owned by James Hopkins, then bought the farm now owned by Charles Stiles, and after residing there about one year, he exchanged farms with his brother-in-law, Nehemiah Barnes, who had purchased the David Hall farm, now owned by Alexander Parmelee. After residing on the latter place a short time he purchased of Jonathan Dike what is now the town farm, and there he resided till his death, June 8, 1855.

Junia Sargent was the son of Timothy C., who was born at sea, on the voyage from England to America, in 1751, and whose early life was spent in Williamstown, Mass. In 1770, he married Ann Horton, of Londonderry, Vt., who was born in 1755, and they located in that town. At the commencement of the Revolutionary war Mr. Sargent enlisted in the army, and as he enlisted from Williamstown it is quite likely that he had returned to that town before enlisting. But he had had a little military experience before enlisting in the regular service, and probably before he removed from Londonderry, as it is known that he went with Allen to Ticonderoga and witnessed the capture of that fortress in 1775. After entering the regular army he was stationed some time at Fort Edward, shared in most of the military movements in the vicinity of North River, was one of the number detailed to escort Andre from prison to the place of execution, and after serving through the war was honorably discharged, and returned to his family. He had five sons, Timothy, Enoch, Ephraim, Junia and Ira; and five daughters, Alice, Lucinda, Nancy, Jernsha and Enniee. Junia, the fourth son, born in Londonderry, July 5, 1788, married, February 17, 1806, Sally, daughter of Thomas Clark, of Fitzwilliam, N. H., and located in Rutland, Vt. In 1819, he came to Pittsford and located on the Rood farm now owned by D. A. and J. Richardson. In 1821, he removed to the Caleb Hendee farm where he resided two years, and after changing his residence several times in this town, bought a

farm in Hubbardton, whither he removed and resided six or seven years, and then returned to this town and spent the remainder of his life with his son Leonard. He died May 20, 1869.* Mrs. Sally Sargent died April 12, 1863.

Job Winslow, brother of Thomas, married Lucy, daughter of William Spencer, in 1819, and located on the south part of the Rice farm. He had, as early as the 28th of January, 1809, bought of Peter Rice (who had married his widowed mother) fifteen acres from the south part of his farm, and soon after built the house† which, after his marriage, he occupied till his death, in 1828. Mrs. Winslow died in 1824.

Henry Simonds located here in 1819. He was a descendant of William Simonds who settled in Woburn, Mass., about 1644, near a place still known by the name of Dry Brook. He (William) married, Jan. 18, 1643, Judith Hayward, widow of James Hayward, who had married her, when Judith Phippen, a fellow-passenger and a fellow-servant, on board the "Planter," from London, 1635. The house Simonds built and occupied in Woburn was used as a fort during the Indian wars. He was one of the proprietors of that town and became a considerable landholder. He was denominated a planter. He served, as most of the men of that day did, in the current military movements. He was admitted a freeman in 1670, and died the same year. His widow survived him twenty years, and died January 5, 1690. They had eleven children. Caleb, the eldest son, born Aug. 26, 1649, unmarried, Sept., 1677, Sarah Bacon. To them were born—1st, Samuel, June 60, 1678; 2d, James, January 15, 1683; 3d, Sarah, Nov. 11, 1687. Caleb Simonds died Nov. 4, 1712. Wid. Sarah Simonds died April 12, 1727. James, by his wife Lydia, had James, Caleb, Sarah, Lydia, Abigail and Susanna. James Simonds, the eldest son

* He had resided about two years on the Benjamin Stevens farm, now owned by R. and E. Hendee, and while there his aged father went to live with him, and died there in 1827. His wife, Ann, died in Hubbardton in 1829.

† This was the house now standing about one hundred rods south of Ransom Burditt's.

of James and Lydia Simonds, was born April 22, 1714, and married Ann Convers about August, 1745. To them were born Anne, Jude, Esther, Hazael ("Asahel"), Ebenezer and Keziah. Hazael, above mentioned, was born December 28, 1752, married Mary —— and settled in Charlestown, New Hampshire. Their children were: Josiah, Henry, John, Joseph, William, Hannah, Fanny, Esther and Caroline. Josiah married and settled in Whiting, Vt. Henry, born May 2, 1791, married Mary Jones, of Claremont, N. H. On the 17th of November, 1819, in company with his brothers, Josiah of Whiting, and John, he purchased of William Barues, of Rutland, the Merriam store* and the place now occupied by John Leonard. The firm took the name of "J. Simonds & Co." and after trading a short time, Henry and John bought Josiah's interest in their Pittsford property and continued business under the firm-name of "Simonds & Co." In 1826, they bought of Whipple Spooner the place now owned by the heirs of Henry Simonds and occupied by his widow. They lived in an old house which, at that time, stood near where the horse-barn now stands, and had a distillery a few rods southwest of the house. In 1834, John sold his share of the property to his brother, Henry, who continued the mercantile business. About the year 1840, he built the house now on the premises, and sold the old house which was removed to the lot now owned by John Fleming, and was soon after burnt. Mr. Simonds was married three times. His wife Mary died Aug. 25, 1825, and he married, May, 1826, Sarah, daughter of Caleb Hendee; she died October 19, 1833, and he married, May 2, 1834, Betsey, daughter of Martin Leach. Mr. Simonds died December 4, 1865.

The period from 1809 to 1820, is distinguished by no very marked transaction in the civil affairs of the town, though

* This store was built by Elisha Ladd.

every year brought with it some change, the necessity for which was made apparent by experience.

The General Assembly at its session in October, 1810, passed an act making it the "duty of the selectmen of the several towns in this state to assess a tax of one cent on a dollar on the list of the polls and ratable estate of the inhabitants of their respective towns for the purpose of schooling;" and a provision was made that, "any town at any meeting warned for that purpose, may by vote direct the collection of such tax in such articles of produce, as may be most advantageous to such towns. The Selectmen called a meeting of the legal voters of Pittsford on the 31st day of December following, "To see if the Inhabitants will have a mind to vote to pay the cent tax on the Dollar, assessed by an act of the Legislature at their Session at Montpelier in October last, in produce agreeably to the provisions of said act." At this meeting the town "voted to raise one half Cent or five Mills on the Dollar of the list of the present year, payable in grain to be appropriated for the support of schools, as provided in the act mentioned in the warning." At this meeting the town also "voted to appropriate twenty Dollars out of the Town's money for the purpose of repairing the Bridge across Otter Creek near Tilly Walker's."

At a special meeting held on the 28th of March, 1811, the town "voted to admit the Small Pox in Town by Enochulation next fall, to be under the direction of the Selectmen and authority of sd Town."

At Freemen's Meeting on the first Tuesday of September, 1811, the following persons were admitted as freemen, viz.: Daniel Tucker, Orin Strong, William House, Eli Mead, John Blanden, John Hull, Francis Leclare, Hiram Ives, William Pearse, William Stevens, Joshua Ray, John Hudson, Azariah

Cooley, Samuel Masters, George N. Gilbert, Daniel Lincoln, Jr., and Ebenezer Smith.

About the 11th of July, this year, occurred one of the most remarkable floods that has ever visited this section of the country. It commenced early in the morning with a succession of thunder showers. Towards noon the clouds gathered blackness, the rain descended in torrents, and during the afternoon and following night it seemed as though "the fountains of the great deep were broken up." The next morning the rain ceased and the clouds cleared away; but the roads were so washed in many places as to be impassable, and the streams were overflowing their banks, spreading devastation and ruin in every direction. Otter Creek rose to an unprecedented height, the waters overflowing the intervals to a vast extent on either side. When at the highest pitch, they washed the door sills of the house of Stephen Mead on the west side, and boats were propelled on the line of the highway from Milton Potter's to Mr. Mead's. The bridge near Mrs. Cooley's,* as well as the Walker and Hammond bridges on Otter Creek, were swept away; but the Mead bridge was, by great exertions, saved, though its structure was greatly damaged. When it was perceived that this was seriously endangered, the neighboring inhabitants turned out, and having taken up the planks, piled heavy timbers upon the rails, so that the superincumbent weight was sufficient to resist the force and uplifting power of water.

In the midst of these operations, the following little episode occurred: Several hours of hard labor had been passed in the heat of the sun when the fatigued and thirsty men, conformably to the customs of the time, bethought themselves of a potion stronger than water. But there was no liquor at hand, nor could it be obtained at any point nearer than the Village, and as there was no boat near, how to obtain it was a

*The widow of Col. Benjamin Cooley.

puzzling question. At length a courageous young man proposed to swim the Creek and obtain the liquor on condition that others would pay the bill. The proposition was acceded to, and our adventurous hero, stripping himself of all garments except his shirt and pants, plunged into the flood and gradually worked his way to the eastern shore, coming out at Gen. Hendeel's barn near the present depot. He then went to Merriam's store, obtained a five gallon cask filled with rum, and placing it upon his shoulders set out on his return. In order to take advantage of the current, he proceeded south to the farm owned by Adget Lathrop—now D. K. Hall's—and there turned west and went upon the high point of land extending out into the water—as it was then—and upon the western extremity he procured a large plank, upon which he lashed his cask, and committing it to the water he swam with it abreast, intending to come out near the workmen at the bridge. The current was so strong, however, that he was carried several rods below, where he came out safe upon *terra firma* amidst the shouts of the multitude. This was a daring feat, and such as few young men at the present day would be willing to undertake. The young man who accomplished it was William Stevens, son of Daniel, and grandson of Benjamin, Sen. We may suppose that the workmen had a jovial time during the remainder of the day.

At a special meeting called on the 3d of September the town "voted to raise two cents on a Dollar on the list of 1811, payable in Grain first of January, 1812, and two cents on a Dollar on the list of 1812, payable in Grain first of January, 1813, to Rebuild and Repair the four large Bridges in sd Town carried off by the late freshet and to defray other expenses. Voted that the Selectmen, with the addition of Adget Lathrop, and Ashbel Lee, be a committee to superintend the Building and Repairing the Bridges aforesaid. Voted that the Selectmen be and they are hereby authorized to put up the Town

Poor to be kept at Public Auction to the best bidder."

At the annual meeting in March, 1812, the town "voted that the Selectmen be a Committee to hear and grant the Request of Israel Brewster, Jr., Samuel Dutton, Zelotes Andrews, Josiah Parsons, Ira Parsons, Nathaniel Anson, Jason Ladd, Justin Powers, Artemus and Caleb Carpenter to be exonerated from paying their proportion for building the three Bridges over Otter Creek and the one over Mill River by Widow Cooley's, where the old ones were carried off by the late freshet, on account of their building Bridges over East Creek near where they live."

Voted to Relinquish the Poll Tax of Christopher Bresee, Jr., for the year 1811, on account of his being equipped in the Militia as the law directs.

At the annual meeting of the 8th of March, 1814, the town chose a committee consisting of the Selectmen—Thomas Hammond, Samuel Fairfield, Ebenezer Bench, Nathan Gibbs, Samuel Smith and Oliver Boggs—to explore and see what alterations it is necessary to make in the road from Strong's Tavern to John Penfield's, also from Holland Weeks' to the Mead Bridge, so called.

"At Freeman Meeting, September 5, 1815, the following persons were admitted freemen by taking the prescribed oath, viz.: Orin Ives, Francis Goodale, Alroy Churchill, Cyrus Chase, Jacob Sheldon, Asa Moon, Levi Stratton, Oliver Wolcott, Jr., Horatio Walker, Azor Dickerman, Nathan H. Wescott, German Hammond, Jedediah Bugbee, John Gillitt, Jr., James Wheelock, Robert L. Loveland, Theophilus Cope, Jr., John Olds, Jr., George C. Ridle, Nathaniel K. Andrews, John Deni, James Bowen, and Jonathan Tilson. Nathan Pratt and Samuel H. Bottom, from a foreign government, were admitted and took the oath of Allegiance to this State and to support the Constitution of the United States as well as the Freemen's oath."

At a meeting held December 11, 1815, "the Selectmen having stated the debts and credits of the town, on motion, voted to raise one Cent on the Dollar of the present year's list, to be added to the Tax voted last March meeting, to defray the necessary expenses of the town.

Voted not to prosecute the Bail of Ozem Strong till after next March Meeting.

Voted that the Meeting House Bell be rung till next March meeting on Sundays and Funeral Occasions at the expense of the town."

The following is found upon the records of 1817:

"Received of Peter Powers and Tilly Walker their Notes to the amount of four Hundred and twenty Six dollars which is in full of the demands of the Town of Pittsford for Bonds entered for Ozem Strong, Constable, and the said Peter and Tilly are hereby discharged from said Bonds in full.

Pittsford, December 1, 1817.

ISAAC WHEDON, } Selectmen of
SAMUEL SMITH, } the Town
ANDREW LEACH, } of Pittsford.

Received the above on Record December 2d, 1817.

Attest, CALEB HENDEE, JR., T. Clerk."

At Freemen's meeting, Sept. 1, 1818, the following persons were admitted freemen and took the customary oath, viz.: Elias Hayward, Augustus Bailey, Jr., Levi F. Hayward, Recompence Wadsworth, Arba Bassett, Luther Wicker, Jr., John Van Allen, Jr., John Cooley, Bradford Andrews, Daniel Priest, Marquis D. F. Gibbs, Jeremiah Morse, Jr., John Simson, Isaac K. Drury, Dexter Babbit, William Hunter, Graten Jackson and Thomas Adams, Jr.

The most exciting event of this period was the second war with Great Britain, commencing in June, 1812, and terminating with the ratification of the treaty of Ghent in Febru-

ary, 1815. Although public sentiment in this State was divided in respect to the policy pursued by the dominant party of the country, yet when the national flag was insulted and the national honor at stake, party feeling was laid aside and the people, with great unanimity, rallied to the support of the government. It is very much to be regretted that so much of the necessary material for writing a full history of this war should be inaccessible. None of the muster rolls of the soldiers, with the exception of those of the Plattsburgh volunteers are to be found in the archives of the State. Some years since they were transferred to Washington, and all efforts to recover them have, thus far, been unavailing. Consequently, with the exception above mentioned, we are unable to give the time of enlistment or term of service of the volunteers from Pittsford, and as the most of these have passed away from the earth, we can do little more than give a list of their names with a few incidents in their military experience, as they are found in the memories of their descendants. The following list of the names of persons, known to have served for a longer or shorter period in the regular army, has been gathered from various sources, and though probably not complete, yet it is as nearly so as we can make it without access to the original rolls:

John Axtell,

Amherst Lee,

John Lampson.

John Barnes, Jr.,

Samuel Miller.

Israel Burditt,

David L. Beebe,

Rufus Bur,

Enos Bailey, Jr.,

John Betts,

Bildad Oreutt,

Amasa Owen.

Elisha Cox,

R. M. Powers,

R. M. Powers, Jr.,

Samuel Cook.	Joab Powers, Gardner Powers, Zebulon Pond.
John Dean, Asa Durgee, Ezra Day, Justin Darling.	Nathaniel Rand.
Leonard Fargo.	William Spencer, Gideon Sheldon.
W. D. Hitchcock, Samuel P. Hawes.	Lucas Thomas.
Reuben Jackson, Gratou Jackson.	Abel Wheeler, Samuel Wheeler, Arden Weller, Edward Wheeler, John H. Lincoln, Robert Wright.

Early in September, 1814, the Governor General of Canada, with an army of fourteen thousand men, some of whom had had the advantage of military experience in the wars of Europe, invaded the northern frontier of the United States, by way of Lake Champlain. Intelligence of this invasion spread rapidly through Vermont, producing the most intense excitement, and arousing the patriotism of the people, who at once determined to drive back the foe and to defend their possessions. To contest the advance of the enemy upon Plattsburgh, Rutland County furnished two hundred and seventy-four men, of whom one hundred and six were from Pittsford. On Friday afternoon, the 9th of September, Col. Hammond received notice of the invasion, with the request that he would collect as many men as possible, and hasten to the assistance of his countrymen. The Colonel mounted his horse and proceeded to the residence of his neighbor General Hendee, with whom he had a short consultation, and they either went or

sent messengers into all parts of the town to call the people to arms. That evening a large number assembled at Van Allen's hotel* where it was arranged that they should meet at the same place the next morning, properly armed and equipped, organize, and march to the scene of conflict. On the 10th, at the hour appointed, more than one hundred men, with their muskets and two days' provisions, paraded on the Common in front of the hotel. They had expected Col. Hammond to lead them; but when they came to ballot for a commander, he declined to be a candidate; consequently Gen. Caleb Hendee, Jr., was unanimously elected, and his acceptance of the command was highly gratifying to the company.

The following is a copy of the muster roll:

Caleb Hendee, Jr.,	Captain.
Isaac Whenton,	First Lient.
Harris Bogne,	Second Ditto.
Jonathan Dike,	Ensign.
K. Winslow,	Surgeon.
George N. Gilbert,	Surgeon's Mate.
Jonathan Kendall,	Wngon Master.
John Barnes, Jr.,	Sergeant.
Joel Burroughs,	Ditto.
William Cushman,	Ditto.
Anthony C. Rice,	Ditto.
John H. Lincoln,	Ditto.
Amos Drury,	Corporal.
Jason Harwood,	Ditto.
Reuben Jackson,	Ditto.
Thomas Barlow,	Ditto.
Japhet L. Warner,	Ditto.
Azer Dickerinun,	Ditto.
Euos Bailey, Jr.,	Drummer.

* Now E. B. Baud's house.

Samuel Holcomb,	Drummer.
Ardin Willer,	Fifer.
William Beel, Jr.,	Ditto.
Zebidee Cooper, Jr.,	Ditto.
Nathaniel K. Andrews,	Private.
Bradford Andrews,	Ditto.
Jeffrey Barns,	Ditto.
Oliver Brown,	Ditto.
Jonathan P. Barron for Allen Penfield.	
David L. Beebe,	Private.
George Burditt,	Ditto.
Gershiam Beach,	Ditto.
William W. Barlow, Jr.,	Ditto.
Daniel Barton,	Ditto.
Edward Clifford,	Ditto.
Zebidee Cooper, Jr.,	Ditto.
Caleb Carpenter,	Ditto.
Luke Dean,	Ditto.
John Downey,	Ditto.
Horne Downey,	Ditto.
Washington Davis for John Kingsley.	
Roger Egleston,	Private.
Cameron McGregor,	Ditto.
Francis C. Goodale,	Ditto.
John A. Gillet,	Ditto.
Eli Hudson,	Ditto.
William Hay, discharged on the 11th inst. on acc't of old age.	
Alvin Hewit,	Private.
Nathaniel Hunter for Martin Leech.	
Daniel Hendee,	Private.
David Jackson,	Ditto.
David A. Jackson,	Ditto.
Hezekiah June,	Ditto.

Lott Keeler,	Private.
Amherst Lee,	Ditto.
Roger Ladd,	Ditto.
Robert L. Loveland,	Ditto.
John Lampson, Jr.,	Ditto.
Ebenezer Mitchell for D. H. Hammon.	
Jesse Moon,	Private.
Hiram Millington,	Ditto.
Eli Manley, Jr.,	Ditto.
John Miller,	Ditto.
Discharged on the 11th on account of old age.	
Joseph A. Montague,	Private.
Abraham Owen,	Ditto.
Justus Powers,	Ditto.
Richard M. Powers,	Ditto.
Joab Powers,	Ditto.
Peter Powers,	Ditto.
Zebulon Pond,	Ditto.
Ira Persons,	Ditto.
James Perkins,	Ditto.
Elijah Richardson,	Ditto.
Oliver Rice,	Ditto.
William Stevens,	Ditto.
Ezra Spencer,	Ditto.
Jacob Simmons,	Ditto.
Obid C. Smith,	Ditto.
John Simmons,	Ditto.
Hightman Stevens,	Ditto.
James Tedder,	Ditto.
William Woods,	Ditto.
Nathaniel H. Wescott,	Ditto.
Oliver Wolcott,	Ditto.
Lenuel Whitmore,	Ditto. Desereted.
Simeon Wright,	Ditto.

Alvin Wright,	Private.
Horatio Walker,	Ditto.
Peter Warner,	Ditto.
John O. Wadsworth,	Ditto.
Oliver Yaw,	Ditto.
Amos Kellogg,	Wagoner.
Milton Potter,	Ditto.
Andrew Leach,	Ditto.
Samuel Wheeler,	Ditto.
Isaac Clark,	Ditto.
Isaac Segar,	Ditto. \$3.30.
James Buck,	Ditto. \$1.34.
Jesse Moon,	Ditto.
William Spencer,	Ditto.
Lewis Barlow,	Wagoner, only one horse.

The above wagoners carried loads both ways between Burlington and Pittsford.

Adgate Lathrop,	Wagoner.
Joseph Tottingham,	Ditto. }
Tilly Walker,	Ditto. }
William Morgan,	Ditto. }
Abner Hendee,	Ditto. } These carried
German Hammond,	Ditto. } Loads but one
Justus Powers,	Ditto. } way.
Josiah Persons,	Ditto.

The forenoon was spent in organizing, and making the necessary preliminary arrangements, and immediately after dinner the company took up the line of march for Burlington. That night they reached Boardman's tavern in Leicester, where they found quarters for the night, some in the house and others in the stable or barn. Sunday morning they resumed the march, and on arriving at Vergennes, stopped, and those not supplied with good fire-arms drew them from the arsenal at

that place. The company then set out for Charlotte which they reached that night. On their way thither they heard the booming of cannon which so intimidated one of their number, Lemuel Whitmore, that he deserted the following night. Monday morning they proceeded to Burlington where they drew rations, and from thence crossed the lake to Plattsburgh, but too late to take part in the contest which resulted so triumphantly to the American arms. The enemy having been repulsed made a hasty retreat, and the Vermont volunteers being no longer needed were discharged and returned to their homes. Captain Hendee received a complimentary letter from Gen. Macomb, thanking him and his men for their patriotic efforts to maintain the honor and dignity of their country.

The town of Pittsford was not slow to recognize the claims of the soldiers, and provision was made for their wants, as will be seen by the following extract from the records of a meeting held October 10, 1814.

"Voted that the Selectmen, together with the Commanding officers of the several companies, for the time being be a Committee to look into the subject, for procuring necessaries for the Standing Militia when called into actual service, and to appropriate such sum or sums as they may think necessary, not to exceed fifty dollars.

Voted that the Town pay to Caleb Hendee, Jr., Sixteen Dollars and ninety-three cents for monies by him borrowed for the use of the Volunteer Company from Pittsford in their late Expedition to Plattsburgh.

Voted to appropriate a sum, not to exceed twenty Dollars, to be laid out at the discretion of the Commanding Officers of the Respective Companies of Militia of this town, in treating their men when called out and drilled for Military Exercises."

"March 4th, 1817. Voted to Raise two Cents on the Dollar to be appropriated towards the expenses of the Plattsburgh Expedition, and one and one-half for other purposes on

the Grand List of A. D. 1817, to be paid the one-half in money and the other half in Grain by the first day of January next.

The volunteers from Pittsford, whether in the regular army or serving for a limited time with the militia, suffered but few casualties. It is believed that nearly all, after having served out their term of enlistment, returned to their homes.

Arza Lee, son of Ashbel, lost a leg in the battle of Williamsburgh, and David Jackson died on his way home from the scene of that conflict.

Abel Wheeler, son of Jesse, a young lad who went as a waiter to Col. Rumsey, of Hubbardton, was killed by a musket ball which entered his abdomen.

Amasa Owen, son of Abraham, enlisted in July, 1812, for five years. He was in Capt. Hawley's Company, Col. Clark's Regiment. He was at Sackett's Harbor at the time of the British attack, May 29, 1813. He was also in the battle of Williamsburgh, on the 11th of November. In this battle he was wounded in the thigh by a musket ball, fell into the hands of the enemy and was carried to Prescott, where his wound was dressed, and he remained a short time in the hospital at that place. He was then taken to Montreal, thence to Quebec and afterwards to Halifax, and was confined in prison on Melville Island. He escaped from prison, and resided some time in New Brunswick, where he married Mary McKeel in 1818. He returned with his family to Pittsford in 1824, though he resided here but a short time. He is now living at the West.



Mr. D. Smith



CHAPTER X.

Immigrants or Settlers and their Locations, continued.

1820—1830.

Abel Penfield located here in 1820. He was the son of John Penfield, was born in New Fairfield, Conn., Nov. 12, 1787, and came to Pittsford with his father's family in 1796. When a young man he was placed as an apprentice with Eleazer Harwood, Jr., to learn the clothier's trade. After he had acquired his trade, he located in Hartford, Vt., in company with Mr. Harwood, his teacher, and they carried on manufacturing business there from 1812 to 1820. In 1816, Mr. Penfield married Pedy Lineolu who was born in Keene, N. H., March 6, 1786. He sold his property in Hartford in 1820, returned to Pittsford and occupied his father's house—now the residence of John Stevens—till 1828, when he built the house in which he recently resided. About the same time he bought one-third of the woolen factory, the grist-mill and ten acres of land, the other two-thirds being owned by his brothers, Sturges and Allen. In 1824, he sold his interest in all this property, excepting the grist-mill which he rebnilt, and the same is now the one owned by John Stevens. He sold the mill property to Mr. Stevens in 1836, and since then he has devoted the most of his time to farining. Mrs. Penfield died October 8, 1842. Mr. Penfield died March 9, 1871.

Gratton Jackson, son of James, married Malinda Dunham, of Brandon, Nov. 20, 1820, and located about one-fourth of a mile east of the residence of Samuel Waters, on land now owned by Marshall Howland. He died about the year 1830, and his widow, soon afterwards, moved to the West.

David Hull, son of David, was born in Brandon, June 3, 1795, married Electa Esther, daughter of Isaac Wheaton, April 20, 1820, and resided some months in the house now owned by E. B. Rand. Afterwards he bought the Stephen Mead farm, on the west side of the Creek, and after occupying it a few years he exchanged it for the John Barnes farm, a part of which is now owned by A. N. Loveland. In 1849, he bought of Warren Barnard the Jonathan Fassett farm, to the improvement of which he devoted the most of his energies in subsequent life. He brought his lands into a high state of cultivation, reconstructed the buildings and made one of the most beautiful estates in the town. He died March 7, 1860.

Clark Taft, born in 1800, son of Josiah, married Mary A., daughter of Moses Hitchcock, April 26, 1820. Soon after their marriage they removed to Hopkinton, N. Y., where they resided till 1828, when they returned to Pittsford, and after residing in various places, located where John Flemming now resides. Mr. Taft bought the house which formerly stood where Mrs. Simonds now resides, and removed it to the present Flemming place, where it was soon after burnt, and he built the present house on its site in 1854. He removed to Weston in 1860. His wife Mary died, and he married a second time.

John P. Stanton, from Williston, married Lucy Hubbard, daughter of Oliver Bogue, Nov. 28, 1820, and resided a short time on the Rice farm, occupying a house which stood at that time about where the brick house now stands. Afterwards he resided a year on the John Gillett place, and in 1832, removed to the farm now owned and occupied by David Mills. There he resided two years and then removed to Westport, N. Y., where he died in 1868. Mrs. Stanton died in 1840.

Nicholas Wescott, married Abigail Gibson, March 2, 1820, and located on the Benjamin Stevens farm, where he resided a few years, and then moved to the State of New York. He remained there a short time, after which he returned to this



David Hall

the present
and the past.
The
present is

town and resided in Whipple Hollow one or two years. He finally removed to Pawlet, where he now resides.

German F. Hendee, son of Gen. Caleb, married Sarah, daughter of Asa Jones, of Claremont, N. H., Nov. 30, 1820, and located on the home farm, where he resided some four years, and then bought the farm which was first improved by Benjamin Stevens, Sen. This purchase was made of Asahel Wolcott, the deed being dated 1839. He built the house on the bluff near the depot in 1849, and the following year returned to the home farm and occupied this new house. He died August 25, 1863.

John Simonds, son of Juhazel, born in Charleston, N. H., April 22, 1793, came here with his brother Henry in 1819, and was one of the firm of "J. Simonds & Co." traders. He married Nancy Malinda, daughter of Asa Jones of Claremont, N. H., Nov. 30, 1820, and located with his brother in the house now owned by John C. Leonard. He and his brother, Henry, bought the place now owned by the heirs of the latter, and they traded here in company till 1834, when John sold his share of their Pittsford property to Henry, and removed to Shoreham. There he resided till the fall of 1864, when he removed to Brandon. He died there April 17, 1869, leaving six children and seventeen grand children. He was a man of sound judgment and of excellent business habits, and was successful in accumulating a large property. He was twice married. His wife Nancy M. having died March 29, 1841, he married Maria Kirby the following September. She now resides in Brandon.

Thomas F. Bogue became a citizen of this town in 1820. The first of the Booge (as formerly written) family in this country was John Booge, a native of Scotland, born in the city of Glasgow and a tobacconist by occupation. He was a religious and enterprising young man; and considering that in the colonies he could enjoy civil and religious liberty, and at

the same time landed property, and there lay a better foundation for his own support and that of a family, if he should have one, than by working at his trade in his native land, he determined that it was desirable to emigrate. He accordingly left Glasgow and all his connections, and came to America about the year 1680. The place he selected for his residence was in the south part of East Haddam, Conn., near the river. He was the fifth man who made a beginning in that town. When a church was formed there he was appointed an elder, in which capacity he served through life. He was frequently chosen a representative to the legislature of the colony, and such was his good and exemplary conduct among the people with whom he dwelt, that they gave him the appellation of "Good Man Booge." He married Rebecca Walkley, of Haddam, who proved herself to be equal in worth to the good man with whom she had been united. They had a large family, comprising seven sons—John, William, Richard, Daniel, Stephen, James and Ebenezer; and three daughters—Sarah, Hannah and Rebecca.

Ebenezer Booge, the seventh son and youngest child, was, at the age of fourteen years, bound out by his father as an apprentice to a Capt. Butler, of Saybrook, to learn the trade of carpenter and joiner. He served out the time of his apprenticeship faithfully, and to the satisfaction of his master. About the time he completed his apprenticeship, he became the subject of very serious and powerful religious impressions, and having obtained, after a time, a good hope of pardon and acceptance with God, he decided to devote himself to the Christian ministry, provided he might be able to enter upon that goodly work with a proper education. As he lacked the means requisite to obtain a college education, he employed himself at his trade about two years, during which time, by the strictest economy, he saved a large proportion of his earnings. He then commenced a course of study to qualify himself

for admission to college. Having gone through this preparatory course he was examined and admitted to Yale College at the commencement in 1744, being then a little more than twenty-four years of age. He graduated in 1748, and after devoting some time to theological studies, entered upon the labors of the ministry. He accepted a call from the parish of Northington, in the town of Farmington, Conn., and was ordained Nov. 27, 1751. On the 19th of December, 1750, he married Damaris Cook of Wallingford, Conn. This worthy lady was a daughter of Capt. Samnel Cook of Wallingford, one of the most respectable men in the town.

By this lady Mr. Booge had seven children — five sons, Aaron Jordon, Samnel Cook, Oliver, Jeffrey Amherst, and Publins Virgilins; and two daughters, Rebecca Walkley and Damaris Corinthia. Rev. Ebenezer Booge, died February 2, 1767, aged fifty-one years nearly. One writes of him as follows: "He was not only an eminent and finished scholar, but had an ardent desire to promote learning and education. For this purpose, in addition to his multiplied and arduous labors in the ministry, he taught many young men the Latin and Greek languages and prepared them for admission into college; and besides this, such was his tender regard for the youth and children of his people, for whom in that day it was difficult to procure education, that he usually gave four months schooling in a year to the young people and children of his congregation gratuitously, and without fee or reward, at his own house and at such other houses as were most convenient for his people. This excited great gratitude in his society among both parents and children, and greatly endeared him to them."

Jeffrey Amherst Booge, the fourth son of Rev. Ebenezer Booge, was born in Farmington, and married Freedom Barnard, of Coventry, who was born in 1773. They located in Chittenden, Vt., and had the following children, viz.: Jeffrey

A., Clarissa, Sarah, Thomas F., Dan B., Louisa, Sophia, Almira, Nancy, Samnel and Virgilins B.

Thomas F. Bogue, (as he wrote his name,) the second son of Jeffrey Amherst, was born in Chittenden, June 17, 1795, and married, in 1819, Elizabeth Stewart, who was born in Sherman, Conn., in 1794. They located in Pittsford, on the Parsons farm,* which Mr. Bogue purchased of Elder William Harrington early in 1820. Mr. Bogue possessed those qualities of mind and heart which fitted him for prominent positions in the town, and at different times he held almost every office within the gift of his fellow-townsmen. He died July 11, 1864. Since his death his family has sold the home farm to Azro Dickerman, and now own and occupy the Sheldon place, in the Village.

Joseph Whitmore married Betsey, daughter of David Jackson, Feb. 25, 1821, and located on land now owned by Henry Mills. The house stood west of the road, nearly opposite the present residence of Michael Cane. After residing there a short time he removed to the farm now owned by Stephen Whipple. The house he there occupied stood a few rods north of the one now occupied by Mr. Whipple. From that farm he removed to Chittenden.

Hiram Jackson, son of Daniel, married Experience, daughter of Peter Worden, Dec. 31, 1821, and located in Whipple Hollow, on land now owned by Leonard Sargent. The house he occupied stood some rods northeast of Graton Jackson's. He removed to Pennsylvania about the year 1840.

Alexander Bogue, son of Oliver, married Hannah Stanton, Sept. 9, 1821, and located on the home farm with his parents. His life was mostly spent upon that place, where he died Dec. 15, 1842. Mrs. Bogue died July 5, 1839.

* It will be remembered that Elisha Rich bought this farm of Aaron Parsons, and sold it to Mr. Harrington.

Benjamin C. Needham, born Aug. 17, 1794, son of Jeremiah Needham, married Acholah Thayer, March 17, 1814, and located in Wilmington, Essex County, N. Y. His wife Acholah died, and he married Feb. 22, 1821, Lois Huntley, who was born in Salisbury, June 20, 1797. He located at this time in Pittsford, and occupied a house which stood near the bank of the Creek, some forty rods south of the house which had been the residence of Col. Benjamin Cooley. Some years since he removed to Parkersburgh, Butler County, Iowa, where he now resides. He was a soldier in the war of 1812.

John Harvey Lincoln, born in Taunton, Mass., came to Pittsford with his father's family in 1809. He enlisted as a soldier in the war of 1812, and served fifteen months, and, besides, was one of the volunteers in the expedition to Plattsburgh in 1814. In June, 1821, he married Dulcima, daughter of Samuel Fenton, and after residing a few months in the house now owned by Charles Stiles, bought the farm now owned by Capen Leonard and built the house in which Mr. Leonard now resides. He occupied that farm* till 1852, when he removed to Brandon, and there he died in 1867. Mrs. Lincoln died in 1855.

Samuel Morgan, born in March, 1802, son of Samuel, married Eunice Stevens, Jan. 30, 1822, and located on the home farm with his parents, where he resided till about the year 1835. He then moved to Rutland, and after residing there a year or more, he removed to the north part of the State, and there died in February, 1867.

Bradford Andrews, son of Kellogg, married Fanny, daughter of William Baxter, March 14, 1822, and after residing in this town a few months, moved to the State of New York, where he resided some years, and where his wife died. He afterwards returned to Pittsford, and one morning in the year

* He sold the farm to Cyrus Dike, Dec. 21, 1852.

1843, he was found dead by the side of the road, a little north of the present residence of A. J. Tiffany.

Ambrose Parmelee, born in Seabrook, N. H., in 1763, married Amelia Conant, of Claremont, in 1805, and located in Windsor, Vt., from which place he came to Pittsford in 1822, and bought of Jonathan Dike the Jnne farm; the deed, dated April 20th, was in consideration of eight hundred and twenty-nine dollars. He removed his family here that spring and resided on his farm till 1844, when he removed to Chittenden where he died in 1853. Mrs. Amelia Parmelee died in 1862.

Eli Lincoln, sixth son of Daniel, born in Tanniton, Mass., married Dorris Downey, Feb. 29, 1822, and located in what was then called the Beach house, a part of which is now standing a few rods north of the present residence of Eliab Randall. After residing there about one year he removed to Wilmington, N. Y., and remained there about two years. His wife died in Wilmington, January 25, 1825, when he returned to Pittsford and was engaged in farm work in various places. He married Hannah Powell Oct. 1, 1844, and located on the place now owned by Siloe Dunklee, occupying an old house which formerly stood where Mr. Dunklee's house now stands. He exchanged his place of residence quite often till 1857, when he settled on the place he now occupies.

Lyman Rockwood, from Fitzwilliam, N. H., married Betsey Powell, and located in Pittsford in 1822. He purchased of his brother, John, one undivided half of a lot of land which the latter had bought of Andrew Leach. This included the lots now owned by Paschal Whitaker and Simeon Gilbert as well as one-half of the saw-mill. The deed bears date March 25, 1823. The two brothers built the Whitaker house that spring and the following summer. Lyman bought of Nathan Dana "40 $\frac{1}{2}$ rods of land on the north side of the highway leading from Pittsford Village to Heman Johnson's, and adjoining John and Henry Simonds' garding." The deed

bears date January 25, 1825, and the consideration was thirty dollars. He built a house upon this lot the following summer—the same now owned by the heirs of the late Charles Walker, D. D. He resided on this place till the 24th of October, 1826, when he sold it to Warren Barnard. On the 2d day of September, 1828, he purchased of Benoni Taylor the land now owned by James Bucknum, and soon after built the house now occupied by Mr. B. His trade was that of a wheelwright, but after locating on this place he worked at sash-making and painting. His wife Betsey died in 1833, and he married Julia Bliss in 1835. He sold the last mentioned place to Amos Crippen, September 30, 1835, and left the town. He returned in 1842,* bought the location now owned by Rollin S. Meacham, and in 1844 built the house now occupied by Mr. M. He traded there till April 26, 1850, when he sold the location to Thomas H. Palmer and again left the town.

Samuel A. Brown, tanner and carrier, born July 23, 1798, son of Elijah, Jr., married Betsey Hemenway, Feb. 11, 1822, and located with his brother Elijah on the place now owned and occupied by his son George. The two brothers carried on the tanning and currying business in company until the 1st day of March, 1827, when Samuel A. bought the location of his brother, paying him the sum of twelve hundred dollars. He resided there until his death, Nov. 16, 1867.

Nehemiah Barnes, son of John, bought of David Hall, Jr., the farm now owned by Alexander Purmelee, the deed being dated April 20, 1819; and in the spring of 1820, he exchanged farms with Nathaniel K. Andrews who had bought and resided on the farm now owned by Charles Stiles. He married Lucelia Andrews, March 9, 1823, and resided on the farm first mentioned till 1865, when he exchanged it with Charles Stiles for the one on which he now resides. Mr. Stiles had, a short time before, purchased it of Austin Andrews.

* He purchased this place of Seneca Townsend and Ira Button, April 26.

Samuel Ward Boardman, son of Timothy, was born in Rutland, Nov. 27, 1789, and the most of his minority was spent in that town. He came to Pittsford in April, 1817, in company with his brother, Charles G., and assisted him in the care of the farm and tavern. The Pittsford property, of which the two brothers had the care and income, was, up to April 5, 1823, owned by their father, Timothy, then residing in Rutland. At this time he deeded the tavern and a few acres of land adjoining, to Charles G., and the north and larger part (eighty-four acres) of the farm to Samuel W. This included the farm now owned by Josiah Leonard. On the 5th of May, 1823, Samuel W. married Anna, born Dec. 6, 1793, daughter of Simeon Gilbert, and occupied the red house now owned by Mr. Leonard, and standing but a few rods north of the brook. He resided there till 1836, when he removed to West Rutland, and the following year to Castleton where he resided till 1860, when he went to Middlebury and resided with his son, Prof. George N. Boardman. He returned to Pittsford in the spring of 1869, and died here, May 13, 1870. Few men have left a better record. He took a great interest in the peace movement, and many articles upon this subject from his pen were published and widely circulated.

John Rockwood, born in 1790, son of Samuel, of Fitzwilliam, N. H., came to Pittsford in 1821, and bought of Andrew Leach one and one-half acres of land, which included the house lots now owned by Paschal Whitaker and Simeon Gilbert, also "one-half of the saw-mill" and one-half of the mill yard north of the bridge on the road leading from the village to Heman Johnson's." The deed was dated September 19, 1821, and was in consideration of three hundred and fifty dollars. As heretofore stated, he and his brother, Lyman, built the house now owned by Mr. Whitaker in 1822, and he

* This was the Fassett mill.

married Lucinda Kimball, Oct. 2, 1823, and resided in the house, with his brother. In early life he had worked at clock-making, but here he devoted the most of his time to wagon-making. The shop in which he worked stood where Mr. Gilbert's house now stands. This was removed some years since, and is now one of the shops recently occupied by Dudley and North. His wife Lucinda died in 1840, and he married Delia, daughter of Ezra Cummings, early in 1841, and in 1844 he removed to McHenry, Ill.

William Wheeler married Philinda, daughter of Robert Loveland, in 1823, and located near the south line of the town occupying the first house south of the present railroad bridge, near Sutherland Falls. He changed locations several times while residing in this town, and at one time moved to some part of the State of New York, but returned to Pittsford, and eventually moved to Brandon where he died in 1867.

Oliver Brown, harness-maker, born October 17, 1793, son of Elijah, married Lydia Maria Bixby, Nov. 14, 1823, and located on the Elias Hopkins place, now owned by R. R. Drake. He resided in the south part of the house, and used the north part for a work-shop. It would appear that he rented this place for a term of little more than two years, as we find that he purchased it of Gordon Newell, Esq., the 9th day of May, 1826, for the sum of six hundred dollars. Mr. Brown resided on this place till 1842, when he sold it to R. R. Drake, and has since resided in various places, though for the last four or five years he has been living with his daughter, Mrs. William Eayres, of Rutland. His wife, Lydia Maria, died May 12, 1840.

John Cooley, son of Capt. Caleb, married Amanda Cook, October 12, 1823. His trade was that of a potter. He located in a log house on the north slope of the hill, some one hundred rods southeast of Demas Chaffee's. After residing there a short time he purchased the land on the south side of the road,

near what was known as the "Pocket Furnace," and built the two-story house now occupied by George Putnam. He resided there a few years, and manufactured earthen ware. He afterwards built the house now owned by his son, Orin. This was built on the southeast part of what was his father's home farm. He died there, July 17, 1856.

Jeffrey Barnes, son of John, was born May 27, 1792, married, Feb. 24, 1823, Violet,* daughter of David Brewster, and located on the home farm with his parents. Afterwards he resided some months with his brother on the Johnson farm, now owned by Alexander Parmelee. He bought the Weeks place, near the Village, in 1825, but after the death of his father, he bought of his heirs the home farm, upon which he resided till 1832, when he exchanged farms with David Hall, and obtained, by the exchange, the Mend farm, now owned by B. J. Douglas. In 1855, Mr. Barnes bought of Frank Maynard the place which had a short time before been fitted up by the latter, and on the 12th of November he commenced to occupy it. While in the vigor of manhood he was a very industrious man, and well understood the public business of the town; and for a long period he held some office within the gift of his fellow-citizens. He died December 17, 1861. Mrs. Barnes died February 19, 1865.

George Godfrey located here in 1823. His grandfather—whose name was also George—was a Brigadier General in the Revolutionary war. He married Bethiah Hodges and settled in Taunton, Mass., where were born the following children, viz.: Mary, Joanna, Lydia, Wealthy, Jerusha, George, Rufus, John and Melinda. George, the father, died at Taunton, June 30, 1793. George, the eldest son, was born Sept. 17, 1758, and during the early part of the war was in the army as waiter for his father, but afterwards entered the ranks as private.

* Born Feb. 28, 1707.

During the latter part of his life he drew a pension from the government. He married, December 26, 1782, Abigail King, who was born June 22, 1763, and they settled in Bennington, Vt. They had eight children, viz.: James, Samuel L., Abigail, George, Melinda, Bradford, Catherine K. and J. Pitts. George, the third son, was born Nov. 21, 1793, and was a soldier in the war of 1812. He married, Nov. 6, 1823, Relief Lincoln, who was born March 3, 1787. They came to this town and located on the farm now owned by the heirs of the late James R. Smith. Mr. Godfrey died October 5, 1837. Mrs. Godfrey afterwards married Randall, and died May 20, 1863.

Lyman Granger—son of Simeon, hereafter to be mentioned—was born in Saundersfield, Mass., December 22, 1794. He was graduated from Union College about 1820, and at once entered upon the study of law. He commenced the study of his profession at the Litchfield Law School and closed it with Judge Samuel Church, of Salisbury, Conn. He commenced practice in company with Moses Strong, Esq., of Rutland, in 1823. In the fall of this year he married Frances Smith of Rutland, who was born Feb. 23, 1799. About this time—in company with his father, then living in Salisbury, Conn., and his younger brother, Chester—he purchased several small lots of land in Pittsford, and the following year he came here to reside. For a little time, he occupied the Ewings house, now known as the Armington house. On the 30th of November, 1826, he and his brother, Chester, purchased of Andrew Leach the furnace property, "consisting of 160 acres of land with all the buildings standing thereon," and the sum paid was six thousand dollars. Immediately after this purchase Lyman removed to the white cottage on the south side of the road leading from the road on which the school house now stands, to the Furnace. The father and two sons carried on the furnace business, and the firm was known as "Simeon Granger & Sons," though the father had not yet

removed his residence from Connecticut. The company built the white house on the north side of the road and a few rods east of the cottage already mentioned, in the spring of 1827, and Lyman afterwards occupied this. He practiced law about two years after he located in this town, but after acquiring an interest in the Furnace, he relinquished professional business and devoted his whole attention to the interests of the company. His wife Frances died December 31, 1834, and in 1836 he married Betsey Spurr. The following year he sold his interest in the furnace property and moved to Granville, N. Y. He died suddenly at Utica, on a visit, June 18, 1839.

Ammann B. Eckley, son of George, was born in Boston, Mass., June 27, 1796, and married, 1824, Polly Simmons, who was born in Chittenden, Vt., April 26, 1798. They resided some years on the west part of the farm once owned by Simeon Clifford, a part of which had been sold to, and occupied by, Eli Hudson. In 1867, Mr. Eckley and his son Samuel bought the Lewis Burlow farm, and on this they now reside.

Asa Paine also located in this town, in 1824. He was the son of Edward and Nabby (Smith) Paine, and was born in Leicester, August 26, 1801. He bought the Rowley farm in 1823. January 15, 1824, he married Harriet Horton, of Mt. Holly, and located on the recently purchased farm. His wife Harriet died Nov. 18, 1826, and he married Sally, daughter of Lot Keeler, of Pittsford, March 18, 1827.

Humphrey Worden, son of Peter, was born in Dover, Dutchess County, N. Y., August 29, 1800. While an infant his parents removed into this town, where his minority was spent. He married Anna, daughter of Ithiel Barnes, in June, 1825, and located with his parents, then occupying the first house east of the school house, in District No. 10. He sold that farm in 1841, and purchased the one upon which he afterwards lived and died. He died Nov. 5, 1869.

Warren Barnard was born August 26, 1790, the son of

Andrew, born November 28, 1764, the son of Dan who has been mentioned as coming from Coventry, Conn., in 1784, settling in the south part of this town, and afterwards removing to Chittenden. Warren married Elizabeth Clark, Nov. 4, 1813, and located in Chittenden, where Mrs. Barnard died January 6, 1814. He came to Pittsford in 1825, and boarded some months at the hotel; October 24, 1826, he purchased of Lyman Rockwood the place now owned by the heirs of the late Charles Walker, D. D., and the 4th of December following, he married Abigail H. Lincoln, and located in that house. He sold his place for a parsonage, and in 1834, bought of Michael Sanders the farm now owned by the heirs of the late David Hall. He resided on this farm till 1839, when he sold it to Hall, and bought the place he now occupies of Ira Hitchcock. His wife Abigail died April 5, 1857, and he married Laura W. Shaw, April 24, 1860.

David Ward is a descendant of William who emigrated from England, and was living in Sudbury, Mass., as early as 1639. David's ancestry, traced back in a direct line, is as follows, viz.: David, of Pittsford, born in Shoreham, Vt., Feb. 27, 1797, son of Adam P., born in 1769, son of William, born in Union, Conn., July 13, 1741, son of Uriah, born Feb. 24, 1715, son of William, born in Marlboro, Mass. June 9, 1691, son of William, born in Sudbury, (probably,) June 7, 1670, son of Obadiah, born about 1632, the third son of William, the first of the family in this country.

David, of Pittsford, married Mary Ann McCollum, Feb. 7, 1818, and located in Saratoga, N. Y. He removed to Mayfield, and from thence to Pittsford, Vt., in February, 1826, locating on the place he has ever since occupied. His wife, Mary Ann, died March 20, 1852, and he married Amelia, daughter of Edward Clifford, March 2, 1853, and she died in 1854, and he married, Sept. 13, 1855, Eveline Lord, who was born in Putney, Vt.

Jeduthan Thomas, born June 27, 1807, son of Ebel, of Chittenden, married Minerva Scott, December 27, 1826, and resided some years on the Woodruff farm—now David Scofield's. In 1863, he removed to his present place of residence, formerly owned by Luther Nurse and his son William.

David Johnson, son of Isaelmr, married Esther Bailey, February 20, 1826, and located with his father on the Stephen Mead farm, now owned by B. J. Douglas. They had resided on that farm several years before the son married. The father bought of Jeffrey Barnes the farm upon which Alexander Parnelee now resides, and not long after they removed to this farm, Isaelmr, the father, died. After residing there a few years David removed from the town.

Ebenezer Blanchard Rand, son of Capt. Zachariah, was born in Westminster, Mass., December 17, 1802, married Betsey Scofield, of Brandon, March 6, 1826, and located on the home farm in Sugar Hollow. In 1840, he bought of Ebenezer Brooks the Ewings tavern and kept a public house till the time of his death, January 3, 1851.

Jonathan Burditt, son of Thomas, was born in Lancaster, Mass., Nov. 16, 1798. His early life was spent with his father on the farm, but after he had attained his majority he went to Canada and engaged in the lumbering business. After an absence of a few years he came to Pittsford, where his parents then lived, and bought the small farm east of Marshall Thomas', near what was called the "Four Corners." The 5th day of April, 1827, he married Sally Floyd, who was born in Springfield, Mass., April 30, 1804. They located on the farm above mentioned, and resided there until the fall of 1852, when they bought of Abraham Owen what had formerly been known as the Mosher place, now owned by Richard and Charles Burditt. Mr. Burditt died on this farm, July 6, 1868. Mrs. Burditt died December 19, 1863.

Harris W. Phillips, son of Jacob, married Fanny, daughter

of Ebenezer Conant, in 1827, and located on the home farm with his brother Orin. The house he occupied stood some rods north of the house now occupied by his brother. He resided on that farm until 1850, when he sold his share of it to Orin, and removed to Illinois.

Laban Bowen, was clerk for Sturges Penfield, in the store, some years before he was married. He married Esther, eldest daughter of Amos Crippen, December 6, 1827, and located in the house now owned by Thomas Hennessey. This house had been built for him by Mr. Penfield. After residing there a few years he moved to Pennsylvania.

Amos Cushman Kellogg, born Nov. 22, 1803, son of Amos, married Nancy Bogue, of Chittenden, October 9, 1827, and located on the home farm with his brother, Samuel II. He resided there until 1837, when he bought of Timothy Lester the farm upon which he now resides. At one time he took an active part in the military affairs of the State, and rose, through various grades of subordinate offices to the rank of Brigadier General.

Chester Granger, born July 5, 1797, son of Simeon, married Mary Smith, of Rutland, December 5, 1827, and located in the white cottage, on the south side of the road leading to the Furnace. He took possession of this immediately after it was vacated by his brother Lyman, and resided there about nine years, or until Lyman moved to Granville, and then took his place in the house on the north side of the road. After the death of the father, Simeon, his share of the furnace property claimed by his heirs was purchased in 1835, by Chester and his brother, Edward L. Granger, and the business of the firm was conducted in the name of C. and E. L. Granger until 1846, when the younger member of this firm died, and his share of the property was purchased by George Hodges, when the business was conducted in the name of "Granger, Hodges & Co." The furnace property was afterwards transferred to the

"Pittsford Iron Co.," and Granger and Hodges retired. Mr. Granger left Pittsford and engaged in the iron business in Pennsylvania, and also assisted in a foundry establishment in Providence, R. I. Within a few years, however, he has returned to his adopted town, and is now enjoying the fruits of an industrious life. His wife Mary died in Pittsford, April 1, 1838, aged thirty-two years, nine months and twenty-eight days.

James Lowth is the son of James who was born in Dundalk, Louth County, Ireland, in 1765, married 1788, Margaret McGuire, who was born in Coat Hill, Cavan County, in 1768, and located in Killeary, Meath County. They had two sons, James and Edward. The father was liberally educated, and for some years the principal of an academy, but died in 1794; the mother died in 1820. James, the eldest son, born May 14, 1790, married, in 1800, Marcella Guirk, who was born June 20, 1791. They came to America in 1827, and soon located in Pittsford. For a few years Mr. Lowth found employment at the Furnace, but on the 21st day of April, 1832, he purchased of Clark Taft the farm upon which he still resides, with his son Matthew. He has been an industrious man, of good habits. His wife died June 21, 1848.

John R. Dunlap, born August 23, 1802, married (1827) Sarah Walker, and located on the farm now owned by Daniel Ray. He left the town in 1843.

Addison Buck, son of Alfred, was born February 19, 1804. A part of his early life was spent as a clerk in the store of his uncle, then residing in Bridport. He married Amanda H. Hayward, of Bridport, April 16, 1827, and located on the Mott* place in Pittsford Village. He built a store a little south of the house and went into mercantile business. His store was burnt in the winter of 1827-8, and he built a new

* This, for a time, was owned by Dr. Mott.

one upon its site and continued to occupy it as a store till about the year 1853. He was appointed Postmaster under the administration of President Jackson, and served as such through the administration of Martin Van Buren. Mrs. Amanda H. Buck died November 4, 1858, and Mr. Buck married Fidelia E. Field of Brattleboro, July 10, 1861. He is now residing on the Cooley place and is employed as a meat merchant.

Simeon Smith is the son of Abijah and Sabra Smith,* and was born in Pittsford, February 7, 1806. December 24, 1827, he married Lydia Bickford, who was born in Canada, June 14, 1806. They resided some years in the westerly part of the town, but in 1856, Mr. Smith bought of Newell Leonard the John Parmelee place, and has since resided on it.

Rufus Whedon (as he spelled his name) was the eldest son of James Whedon, and brother of Isaac, who has already been mentioned. He was born in Connecticut in 1757, and at the commencement of the Revolutionary war, being then eighteen years of age, he enlisted as a soldier in the American army, and served through the war. He was with Washington, in the most of that General's hard-fought battles, and during some part of the time he was a member of his body-guard. After the close of the war, he married Anna Norton, and resided in Connecticut till 1827, when he removed with his family to this town, and resided a year with his brother Isaac. April 2, 1828, he purchased of Abel Penfield the farm which had been owned and improved by Ebenezer Hopkins, the same which is now owned by William P. Ward. Mr. Whedon moved on this farm very soon after he bought it. Mrs. Whedon died of small-pox, February 9, 1832. Mr. Whedon afterwards married a Widow Gatt, of Rutland. He died April

* Abijah Smith's children were Abigail, Israel, Mary, Simeon, Leander and William.

5, 1840. He was a tall, portly man, quite social, and delighted to narrate his military experience, and he had a fund of anecdotes respecting the "Father of his country."

We have little knowledge of Leonard Fargo prior to the time he came to Pittsford. He had resided some time in Rutland, and there lost his first wife. He came to this town in 1828, and on the 7th day of December, that year, married Hepzibah Rider, daughter of Rufus Wheaton, and perhaps resided a short time in Rutland, though not long after their marriage they were occupying the Rawson place in this town. After the death of Mrs. Fargo's father, in 1840, his farm was divided among her heirs, and Mrs. Fargo had her share set off to her from the south part of it, and Mr. Fargo built a house and barn upon that part—the same that now stand near the foot of the hill, south of William P. Ward's. Mr. Fargo died there in 1868; Mrs. Fargo died in 1870.

Thomas H. Palmer was born in Kelso, Scotland, Dec. 27, 1782, and in early life came to Philadelphia and was there employed some years in a printing office. His attention was mostly directed to literary pursuits, and being a man of great energy and perseverance, he soon acquired an extensive knowledge of almost every department of science. On the 8th of July, 1822, he married Joanna T. Fenton, who was born in Georgia, Vt., September 25, 1800. They resided in Philadelphia four years, then came to Rutland, Vt., and resided two years; and on the eleventh of June, 1828, Mr. Palmer bought of Jeremiah Howard the Phineas Ripley farm in Pittsford, for which he paid three thousand dollars. This farm had been mortgaged by Mr. Ripley to the Vermont State Bank, and it was afterwards sold to Mr. Howard. Mr. Palmer located in Pittsford about the time he purchased this farm, and occupied for some time the Ripley house, now owned by Samuel T. Fenton. In 1832, he built the brick house—one of the largest

and pleasantest houses in the town—and in this he resided till his death, July 20, 1861. The homestead is still retained and occupied by the Palmer family.

Abiel Mitchell, son of Abiel, was born in Easton, Mass. He married Sarah Lingham and located in Chittenden, Vt., prior to 1806. In 1828, he bought of Daniel Keith the place on which his son William now resides, near "Sand Hill," so called. He died there in September, 1848, and his son William then bought the place.

The Granger family is of English origin, and the first of the Pittsford branch settled in Massachusetts in the early part of the last century. The Christian name of the early immigrant is not now remembered, but he had a son Simeon, who was born in Suffield, Conn., September 17, 1734, married Abigail Dudley, of Saybrook, Conn., Nov. 26, 1757, and located in Springfield, Mass. He afterwards removed to Sandersfield, where he died in 1815. His wife Abigail died in Deerfield, Ohio. Their youngest son, Simeon, born in Springfield, Mass., March 17, 1770, married Phoebe Couch, of Sandersfield, Conn., in 1791, and resided there till 1801, when he removed to Salisbury, Conn., where he was a farmer and real estate broker. He purchased some real estate in Pittsford in 1825, and as heretofore stated, became the head of the firm of "Simeon Granger & Sons," in 1826. Though he did business in Pittsford, his family remained in Connecticut until May, 1829, when they removed to this town and occupied the Keith house, which stood on the south side of the brook, where Seba Smith's house now stands. He died here, November 9, 1834. Mrs. Granger died February 6, 1840.

Arbela Adams, born April, 1804, son of Thomas, married Olive Hawes, of Croydon, N. H., August 17, 1829, and located on a part of the home farm. The house built for him stood on the east side of the road between the present residence of Elias T. Adams and that of Seba Smith, but scarcely a vestige of it

remains. He removed to the West about the year 1846.

William Nourse, youngest son of Ebenezer, was born in Fitzwilliam, N. H., June 3, 1807, and in early life learned the potter's trade of Solomon Goddard, of Troy. He married Charlotte Kimball in 1827, and in the winter of 1829, came to Pittsford and bought of Andrew Lench, sixty square rods of land on the north side of the road and near the east end of what is now known as the Colburn bridge. Upon this he built a pottery and made earthen ware. He resided, at this time, in the house which stood near where Asa Nourse's house now stands. On the 5th of June, 1834, he sold the pottery to his brother Asa and removed to South Chittenden, where he engaged in the same business. Soon, however, he removed to Middlebury where he resided a few years, after which he removed to Weybridge where he died.

James Gorham came here in 1829. He was the son of Wakeman Gorham, who was born in Massachusetts, married Polly ——, and located in Chittenden, Vt. Their children were Polly, Lucy, Carter, Junes, Jernsha and Almira. James was born in Chittenden, in June, 1801, married Dec. 9, 1829, Angeline Wood,* daughter of Joseph Tottingham, and located on the Abraham Walker place in Pittsford Village. Mr. Gorham was a shoemaker, and worked at his trade in a small shop which stood a few feet south of the house. He built the present house, and died there January 10, 1849.

The town, at an adjourned meeting, March 29, 1820, "Voted to raise two Cents on the Dollar of the list of A. D. 1820, half paid in Grain, payable the first of January next."

"Chose William Thomas School Trustee in Pleasant Valley District."†

"Voted that the Selectmen have discretionary power to

* Born October 1, 1809.

† This district included what is known as Cobb Hill. Allen Cobb, a prominent settler in that district, hearing some person speaking of it in terms of derision, reproved the scoller and christened that section of the town *Pleasant Valley* District, a name by which it was long after known.

purchase Whisky, or Cider Brandy for Squirrel hunters not to exceed six Gallons."

March 1, 1821. "Voted to pay the Listers twelve dollars each for their services in 1820."

At this time the most of the larger bridges in the town were built upon trestle work, and almost every spring on the breaking up of the ice in the streams, they were more or less injured, so that the cost of supporting them was felt by the tax-payers to be a heavy burden. Many persons were of the opinion that several of the bridges and roads in the town might be dispensed with; and the selectmen were requested to call a special meeting of the legal voters of the town, for the purpose of taking some action upon this matter. A meeting was called by a warrant containing the following articles:

"1st. To choose a Moderator.

2d. To see what number of bridges in said town they will agree to support, and what number they will agree to discontinue.

3d. To fix on the method of rebuilding those that should be regarded necessary or expedient, either by raising tax or otherways."

The following, copied from the record of the proceedings of that meeting, will show that public sentiment was divided in relation to the subject under consideration :

"Proceeded to choose a moderator, whereupon Isaac Wheaton was appointed.

2d. Appointed G. Newell, clerk pro tempore.

3d. Voted that the town will not discontinue the east and west road from the village across the bridge near Isachar Johnson's.*

4th. Voted to discontinue the road leading from the road

* Isachar Johnson at this time lived on the Mead place.

passing by Robert Wright's* across the Creek intersecting the road on the west side of the Creek.

5th. Voted to appoint a committee of five to joine the selectmen to examine the best place for a road from the village to Penfield's, and appointed Thomas Hammond, Calvin Drury, Nathan Gibbs, Amos Kellogg and Thomas Adams, and make report at the next meeting.

6th. Voted not to discontinue the road and bridge from the village in Pittsford to R. Wright's by the widow Cooley's.

7th. Voted to discontinue the road from the west side of the Creek across to Thomas Hammond's house.

8th. Voted to discontinue the bridge by Capt. Allen Penfield's as a town bridge.

9th. Voted to discontinue the bridge near Andrew Leach's house, east.

10th. Voted to rescind the vote as to the bridge near widow Cooley's.

11th. Voted to rescind the former vote as to the Mead bridge and the road leading thereto."

A sufficient explanation of the foregoing record will be found in the fact we have already noticed, that there were many influential men in the town who felt that there were more bridges than the public could afford to support, and accordingly, whenever one was swept away or needed extensive repairs, an effort was made to discontinue the bridge and the road leading thereto. One party would occasionally succeed in discontinuing a bridge and road, and another would resort to such expedients as would soon cause them to be legally reopened. By the eighth vote an effort was made to throw the expense of supporting the Mills bridge upon the inhabitants in that neighborhood.

"March 6th, 1827. Voted to instruct the Selectmen to

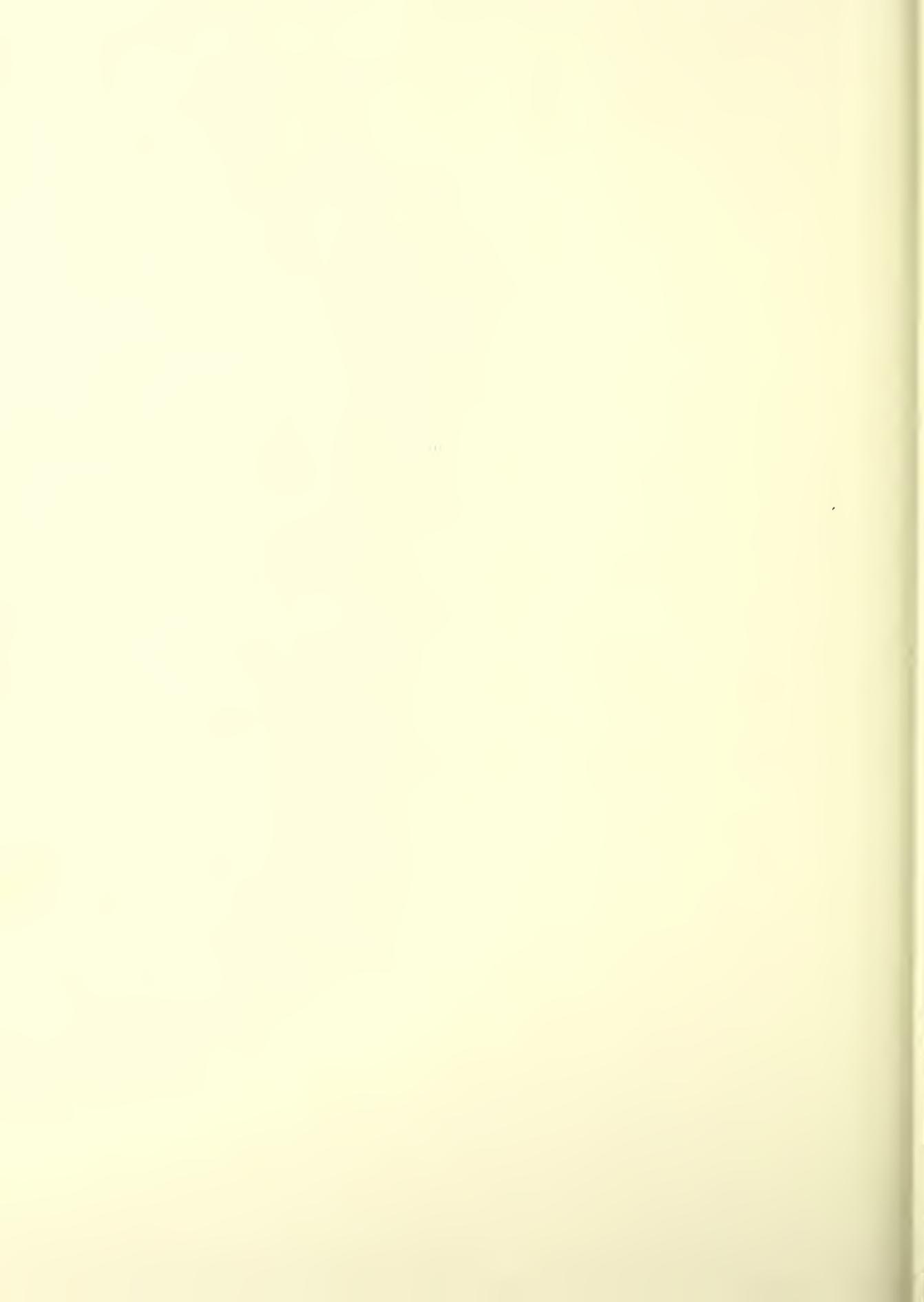
* Robert Wright at this time lived on the Abel Stevens place.

defend the suit in court, concerning the road and bridge near Thomas Hammond's."

It will be remembered that the town voted, in 1820, to discontinue this road and bridge, and the suit referred to was brought to compel the town to reopen them.

"March 3, 1829. Chose Rev. Willard Child, Thomas H. Palmer and A. G. Dain, Superintending Committee of Schools.

Voted the above committee serve without compensation."



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